

# The Die Hards

## THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)



VOL. XIV No. 8

JUNE 1961

PRICE 1/-

### THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

(57th and 77th)

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.  
 "Mysore," "Serlingapatam," "Alubhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenes," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsula,"  
 "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa 1900-02."

World War I—46 Battalions—"Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914, '18," "La Bassée, 1914,"  
 "Messines, 1914, '18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915, '17, '18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg,"  
 "Belwaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme," 1916, '18," "Albert, 1916, '18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood,"  
 "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Flers-Croisette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916, '18," "Bapaume,"  
 1917, '18," "Arras, 1917, '18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917, '18," "Arleux," "Ploeghem," "Langemark, 1917," "Menin Road,"  
 "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917, '18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre,"  
 "Villers Bretonne," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrück," "Bailleur," "Kemmel," "Schäpersberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal  
 du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy,"  
 1917-18," "Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suva," "Landing at Suva," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915,"  
 "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine 1917-18,"  
 "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Murmur, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

World War II—7 Battalions—North-West Europe, 1940: "The Dyle," "Defence of the Escaut," "Ypres—Comines Canal," "Dunkirk,"  
 1940," "South-East Asia, 1941," "Hong Kong," "North Africa, 1942-43," "El Alamein," "Advance on Tripoli," "Mareth," "Akarit,"  
 "Diebel Roumania," "Sieli, 1943," "Francoforte," "Sferro," "Sferro Hills," "Italy, 1944-45," "Anzio," "Caracotto," "Gothic  
 Line," "Monte Grande," "North-West Europe, 1944-45," "Normandy Landing," "Cambes," "Breville," "The Odon," "Odon," "The  
 Orne," "Hill 112," "Bourguibus Ridge," "Troarn," "Mont Pincon," "Falaise," "The Seine, 1944," "The Nederrijn," "Le Havre,"  
 "The Lower Maas," "Venraij," "Meijel," "Geilenkirchen," "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.

Commanding Officers

1st Bn.—Lt.-Col. I. H. Battye, M.B.E.

5th Bn.—Lt.-Col. I. D. Brotherton.

Regimental Headquarters—Col. F. Walden, R.O.II.

Major E. L. Heywood, R.O.III.

Home Counties Brigade

H.Q.: Weymouth Barracks, Canterbury.

Brigade Colonel: Col. M. T. N. Jennings.

D.A.A.G.: Major R. G. Snowden, T.D.

Regular Battalion

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

Regimental Headquarters and Regimental Museum

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Territorial Army Units

5th Bn. Edgware, Middlesex.

Record and Pay Office

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, Tokoroa, 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.), T. A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex; cheques and postal orders should be made payable to the Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association, and crossed " & 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

## Brigadier A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E.

Arthur Green, who was educated at Tonbridge and Sandhurst, retired from the Active List on February 13, 1961.

"Stumps," as he was known to all, was commissioned into the Regiment on January 31, 1929.

After less than a year with the 1st Battalion at Catterick he joined the 2nd Battalion abroad and served with them in Madras and Khartoum and, on their return to the U.K., in Colchester. This was followed by a three-year tour of duty as Adjutant at the Depot, Mill Hill.

The early part of World War II saw him as Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion in N.W. Europe. Shortly afterwards he became Adjutant, and later 2IC, of the 1/7th Battalion, and served with that Battalion with the 51st (Highland) Division throughout the North African campaign.

In 1943 he was appointed G.S.O.2 to the XIIIth Corps, later in the same year he took over command of the 6th Battalion Durham Light Infantry and saw service with them in Sicily, Italy and N.W. Europe. In these latter operations he was wounded. He was awarded the D.S.O. in 1945.

After a brief spell in a G.S.O.2 appointment he was appointed to command the 1st Battalion, then stationed in Germany, followed by a year as Chief Instructor of the Heavy Weapons Wing of the Small Arms School at Netheravon. Then followed in 1948 a period in Greece with the British Military Mission, after which he went to the War Office as a G.S.O.1.

In the New Year's Honours List in 1950 he received the O.B.E. From May, 1950, he commanded the 7th Battalion for three years, after which he was seconded to the Arab Legion in Jordan, where he commanded the 2nd Infantry Brigade with the rank of Brigadier. Changes in that country brought about his return to the U.K. in 1956. Some time later he was given command of a Port Task Force with headquarters in

Glasgow, and he held this appointment until his retirement.

He is now living quietly in Cornwall and we wish him and his family many years of peace, happiness and good health.

## Reception by Hendon Borough Council

On April 21 the Borough of Hendon gave a reception at Hendon Town Hall to mark the departure of the Regimental Depot from the Borough. About 50 officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s and their wives attended.

As a memento of the occasion the Mayor, on behalf of the Borough Council, presented the Colonel of the Regiment with a beautiful replica of the flag of the Borough, mounted on a wall bracket, suitably inscribed.

## Our Affiliated Regiment in New Zealand

After a long lapse we were delighted to get some notes and an abridged history of the Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment, which appear elsewhere in this issue.

We hope very much that the Regiment will now send regular contributions to the Journal.

## Museum Piece

The following document recently received by the 1st Battalion may be of interest to some of our older readers:

Barclays Bank D.C.O.,  
Gibraltar.  
February 22, 1961.

P.M.C. Officers' Mess,  
1st Middlesex Regiment,  
c/o War Office,  
Whitehall, London, S.W.1.  
Dear Sir,

On checking up our records we find that there has been a dormant balance of Pesetas 50.68 in your Peseta current account since April 18, 1895.

We are now in a position to remit to you the sterling equivalent at Pts. 41.50 to the £, i.e. £1 4s. 5d. and shall be obliged to receive your instructions regarding disposal of this amount.

Yours faithfully,

???

Manager.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Officers' Club At Home.**—Saturday, July 1, T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware.

**Officers' Club Dinner.**—Friday, July 21, United Service Club, Pall Mall, S.W.1.

**Regimental Reunion.**—Friday, November 17, Seymour Hall, Seymour Place, W.1.

## 1st Battalion Notes

## EDITORIAL

Once more the Battalion is back in Gordon Barracks, Hameln, after being dispersed for the whole of the winter in at least three different places. The snow ended abruptly at the end of February and Winterberg was quickly closed down. The running of the Winter Warfare Training Centre was a great success, and to both the skiers and the permanent staff it was a period of relaxation and great enjoyment. All without exception were very loath to return to Hameln.

A great majority of those in the Battalion were able this winter to pursue pastimes of their own tastes, and in particular were able to get away from Hameln and the normal daily routine in barracks. It is hoped that as a result all have returned refreshed and eager to begin yet another (the third) training season in Germany.

1961 has begun with the inevitable study periods at Division, Brigade and eventually Battalion level. It is curious that the tactical policy on certain operations continues to change regardless of whether the Commands change or not. This change of thinking is *not* designed to convince the soldier in his third year of training that the Commands are unsure of themselves. Let me remind would-be thinkers that nuclear warfare is new to us all, and if you find yourselves back to the doctrine of 1959 your last two years' training have not been wasted, but on the contrary it has enabled the Commands to arrive at the best tactical doctrine.

This year we have some new members in our team and we hope as a result they will produce some new and original ideas, having just learnt from the mistakes made over the last two years.

The officers of the Battalion have busied themselves with writing essays with varied degrees of success. In addition some have sat their Staff Promotion examination, and those too young for that examination have attended a Young Officers' Study Day run by 11th Brigade H.Q. The results of these three examinations are as follows:

**Lieutenant to Captain Practical Examination.**—All three candidates were successful: Lt. R. C. Pitman, Lt. G. Goring, 2/Lt. J. G. Lofting (by the skin of his teeth).

**The Practical Examination for Promotion to Major.**—The following were successful: Capt. A. E. McManus Capt. R. J. Durnell.

**Young Officers' Study Day.**—Lts. Legg, Goring, Cheesman, Cowing, Bulloch and Pitman did well. The rank and file have not escaped the educating machine. Examinations for 1st and 3rd Class have taken place and the lists of successful candidates slowly grows. The Battalion concluded its study periods for this quarter by spending a day on nuclear study on the defence. These study days were followed by Battalion exercises. In spite of the countryside being extremely wet and muddy, the weather has been kind to us during our fresh air activities, unlike last year, when, as soon as we left barracks it was a signal for the skies to open and drench us.

In the field of sport we have been far less successful than we expected. In Association football, rugby, hockey and cross-country we were not even Brigade winners. Basketball was one bright spot, we won the Brigade by a narrow margin and went on to win the Divisional Competition. In ski-ing we benefited by having our team up at Winterburg or Murnau most of the time, and the results in the Divisional and B.A.O.R. Meetings were very satisfactory. Full reports on these sports are recorded elsewhere.

We do congratulate L/Cpl. Bartlett on coming 10th in the novices' downhill race, and Cpl. Holland who finished 8th in the British Open Army and B.A.O.R. Biathlon and also Pte. Clarke (89) in reaching the finals of the B.A.O.R. Boxing. Clarke, I think I am right in saying, is in his first year of boxing.

It was announced in the paper, on April 4 that Cpl. O'Keefe of the Middlesex Regiment with Capt. Crook of the 1st Lancashire Regiment won the Devizes canoe race over the Easter holiday. O'Keefe we know is an excellent canoeist and we congratulate him on covering the course in the record time of 20 hrs. 37 mins. We hope that next year, if Cpl. O'Keefe is still with us, we can find him a Middlesex partner.

The highlight of this quarter has been the success of the Battalion .22 rifle team. They maintained a steady score throughout and it was this steady run that won them the B.A.O.R. Final. The Rifle Brigade and the Canadians could not stand up to the consistent good shooting of the Londoners, who dealt with all comers in their stride.

The Corps Commander, Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles Jones, K.C.B., C.B.E., M.C., spent the day with the Battalion on

March 29. He landed by R.A.F. helicopter, and immediately inspected a Guard drawn up outside Battalion H.Q. The Guard was found from all companies, except "A" Company: Guard Commander, Sgt. Clements; Guard, Ptes. Murphy ("B"), Gibb ("C"), May ("C"), Meehan ("C"), and Jamieson ("H.Q.").

The Band were in attendance and the Guard was thus able to march off to martial music. The General did not enter Battalion H.Q., but got down to business and was off to see the men of the Battalion. He visited the M.T. Platoon, "C" Company on combat P.T. and the assault course, the Signal Platoon training, the Corporals in the Corporals' Club, and finally he met the Sergeants in their Mess before lunching with the officers. In a letter to the Commanding Officer he expressed his pleasure at finding the Battalion in such good heart.

An outside recording unit from the British Forces Network visited the Battalion and interviewed Cpl. McKenzie, Sergeant Pritchard, L/Cpl. Cousins, Cpl. Dacosta, Pte. Finnis, Cpl. Jackson, W.O.2 Medloc, and the W.V.S. The recording was broadcast on two different days on the B.F.N. network.

The Battalion has featured in a military training film. "A" Company largely featured in this film. Mock-up equipment was used and the soldiers dressed in foreign uniforms represented the enemy. A realistic scene was enacted and shot at Sennelager with all the accompanying bangs and flashes. The film unit left satisfied with their results and our work.

The Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E., spent a week with us. We all benefited greatly from his visit. He was able to tell us all about the activities taking place at Mill Hill, Edgware and Canterbury. We now feel much happier that our interests at home are being well looked after and that we do know what is going on. At this time in particular, we are most grateful to the Colonel of the Regiment for his informative visit.

Major-Gen. Weston paid us one of his surprise visits. He arrived in a somewhat naked helicopter and was greeted by one green Verney light fired in the air. This he considered a hostile act and continued to circle to regain his equilibrium before landing. His visit was of a social nature and fitted in perfectly with the visit of the Colonel of the Regiment.

There are a number of new faces amongst the officers of the Battalion. Major Galvin has returned from a tour with a Territorial Welsh Brigade as Brigade Major. Capt. Fisher has returned from Ghana where he was serving with the Ghana Armed Forces Training Centre.

Major Mievill has been with the "Outward Bound" School in Wales, so he is well adapted to undertaking his present task commanding C.S.M. Beale and "A" Company. Lt. Pitman has had a short spell at the Depot to help out with the last draft of National Servicemen. 2/Lts. Freeborn, Finch and Hubert have very recently joined and have already been swept up in the whirl of Battalion activities. We welcome all the latter arrivals and hope they will enjoy their service in Hameln.

The Editor spent a very interesting and liquid evening

with ex-C.S.M. Perry in the bar of the Kroon Hotel at the Hook of Holland. Perry, as can be gathered, is the mainstay of the Hook. His official job is Q.M., his unofficial jobs are President of the Sergeants' Mess, Drill Sergeant, Weapon Training Sergeant (since he won six cups for shooting in his first year), adviser to all from the C.O. to the R.S.M., and caretaker to a (band?) of cats, who at one whistle from Perry rush to his side.

I believe he is going to close the transit camp when the time comes. The question of marriage is now more than just a rumour and we may well see this old "Die-Hard" hooked yet.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Dodkins on the addition of a daughter to his family. His motor cycle and sidecar will have to be put into retirement.

Major De Gaye has decided that Paris offers greater attractions than the Army and we bade him farewell on March 27. Major De Gaye, late Commander of "A" Company, has spent several years out of the last ten in Paris and presumably this move has been formulating for several years. He last served with the Battalion in Cyprus and previous to that was serving with the Northumberland Fusiliers in Korea. We not only wish him every success in his new life but also envy him. As far as we can ascertain he will live in Paris with no monetary problems and much less responsibility than he had in the Army. Perhaps the Regiment will become more acquainted with Paris now we have a representative there.

Easter this year was wet and miserable. The water level rose in the River Weser to the height it reached during the worst of the winter months. In spite of this members of the Battalion were seen in Copenhagen, the bulb fields of Holland, Paris, Amsterdam, Southern Italy, Spain, the Harz Mountains, Winterburg and a coach party spent Easter in England.

I wonder how many readers have stopped to think that who is responsible for producing all the photographs in the Journal. There are so many kind donors, but one must be singled out above all others for the numerous good photographs he has produced, and that is C.S.M. Dodkins. He has generously and willingly given countless photographs to the Editor, and we are most grateful to him for his great help. The Editor sincerely apologises for not giving recognition to this fact in earlier volumes, and we do so hope he will continue to favour us with candid camera shots.

I believe that the Journal, from after this issue, will only be published every six months. The next issue will be in October.

(NOTE.—The Journal will NOT be published half-yearly until after the December, 1961, issue.—EDITOR.)

#### OBITUARY

Major R. H. A. Knox, late of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was the Station Staff Officer in Hameln from August, 1958. When the Battalion arrived in Hameln in 1958 he, in his own quite efficient way, settled us into Gordon Barracks. We are greatly indebted to him for his help and guidance. Major Knox was a very active S.S.O., the familiar figure with the grey hackle and blackthorn stick could be seen walking to work and back each day; at least once a week

he substituted his blackthorn stick for a hockey stick when he was actively engaged in terrorising any forward who dare set foot in his half of the field.

Apart from looking after the sports fields and married quarters, Major Knox did so much towards improving Anglo-German relations. He was well known and very well liked by a great number of Germans, who I know feel that they had lost a very good friend.

His passing has left a gap in our ranks which will be difficult to fill.

#### SOLDIER'S VIEWPOINT

I came to Germany with the impression that the German people were of the attitude of "Let's live and forget." But since I have been out here I have learnt that they are still the "Master Race" in their opinion. A typical example of this is their attitude when you visit a "Gasthaus." They are only too willing to serve you during the weekday, but on the weekend when their trade improves they are generally very rude, and only if you start to argue the point (which none of the soldiers will bother to do) will they then serve you.

The German countryside is very beautiful. Very similar in many cases to England. There are the rolling plains of the north and the mountainous region of the south. The area where the Battalion is stationed is excellent farming country. The farmers are about the only Germans I have met who are genuinely friendly.

Their forms of entertainment are "cool" compared with home. No German has the slightest idea of dancing, merely doing a prance that is not even in time with the music that happens to be playing. The dance band as they call it consists of a drummer, piano player, usually two military trumpets and an accordion. Military music takes priority even at dances. One-two-three that is all you will hear. "Rock-an-roll" is never heard—"If Dad don't we don't."

The German people, however, are gifted with good dress sense. Compared with the average English youth the German is far more superior in his way of dress. Even the factory girls go to work smart, not like so many we see in England with the old turban-type head-dress and the pins in ready for the night's entertainment. In most cases the girls are exceptionally "modern," by this I mean that they interpret the style of dress direct from the leading designers more quickly than English girls, and are not frightened to lead the way as an individual in any new form of "gimmick."

J.W.B.

#### THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT IN HAMELN

I feel honoured to be given this subject to write about, and I shall try to give a clear impression of my experiences with the Middlesex Regiment in Hameln. When I say the Middlesex Regiment, I do not think of the numerous soldiers to whom I have hardly spoken, I mean the officers' families and the teachers' families.

Whenever I go through the part of Hameln where these families live, I feel as if I am walking through an English village, with two storied houses and little gardens in front and at the back of each house.

The English often say they are too lazy to learn

another language, as almost everyone here speaks English. However, judging from my acquaintances among the English here, I am surprised by their ability to speak German. I think that this is due to the efforts the Regiment makes to contact the German population.

We have had many opportunities to read in our newspapers about the interesting English conservative way of life, and I hope that this will continue. Let me give you a few examples which impressed me most of all. I think many will agree that giving a Christmas party and distributing gifts to underprivileged children were wonderful and heartwarming experiences. Another commendable activity was the Christmas Carol Service given by the Anglo-German Club for the English and Germans. And we do not forget the many Beating Retreats during the summer and winter.

I am often a guest in the B.F.E.S. School, and again and again I am impressed by the English teaching method. It must be very difficult for children, when their father is posted, to adapt themselves to their new surroundings and school, and the way the teachers try to help them appeals very much to me, and it is extremely commendable.

Apart from teaching them to appreciate their own country and customs, I have noticed that the pupils were given as well opportunities to learn more about the foreign country they are living in, not only from books, but also from outings around Hameln.

Regarding all these things, I sincerely hope that this relationship will be fostered by both nationalities, the population of Hameln, and the Middlesex Regiment, for by so doing we hope to further the cause of world peace.

BY A GERMAN ACQUAINTANCE.

#### CADETS VISIT THE BATTALION

On Wednesday, April 5, 1961, about 1,000 cadets from all over England and Scotland came by special train and boat to spend a week with one or other of the Battalions or Units stationed here in Germany.

We entertained 2/Lts. James and Brenan and their party of 21 cadets from the Middlesex, Kent and Sussex A.C.F.

Their programme was as varied as time permitted, and as well as the military side we showed them something of what Germany has to offer as a country.

The first day was devoted to looking around barracks and acquainting themselves with Hameln—and Sgt. Plumb! Saturday morning and the Signals Platoon took over, showing them the latest equipment and allowing them to try out the new A40 sets. The latter part of the morning Support Company provided their Mobat and 3-in. mortar team as well as the Assault Pioneer Section to be put to the test.

Monday was spent in Hannover where after looking round the city in the morning we were taken by a guide for a two-hour tour of the Volkswagen works in the afternoon. Holtensen ranges on Tuesday gave them a chance to fire the Platoon small arms weapons—the S.M.G., the S.L.R., and the new 7.62 mm. L.M.G. A demonstration by a Platoon of "B" Company showed our visitors on Wednesday how a Platoon

would look ready for battle; and on the ground how it carried out its tasks in an attacking role.

The final day was spent in the Harz Mountains where we all enjoyed the fine scenery. One cadet, on returning to the spot picked for lunch, was seen to have two civilian strangers with him. On being asked who they were, he was heard to reply: "Oh, they're Germans"—it's a small world!

They all departed safely on the special train the following morning. The general feeling being that a good time had been had by all.

#### THE WIVES' CLUB

This worthy organisation embraces not only Middlesex wives, but wives of every Unit in the garrison, as well as welcoming any of the teachers or members of the W.V.S. who like to come along. We meet every other Monday, at 1945 hrs., and husbands are universally left at home to baby-sit, get supper, and, we all hope, wash up afterwards. We feel sure that their general impression is that we sit and knit and gossip all evening, and although a certain amount of gossip naturally goes on, our main activity each evening is very varied and interesting. We have had a glass-blowing demonstration, by a German professional, after which we all spent too much money on his exquisite glass animals. We have had a lecture and demonstration on beauty culture and make-up by Mrs. Battye, who is a qualified beauty expert, and which thoroughly depressed some of us, who realised we had been doing quite the wrong thing to our faces for years. We have had a flower-arranging demonstration, and an instructional evening of Scottish reels, given by yours truly, and which involved much noise and even more energy. By the end of that particular evening we were all at least two pounds lighter and quite exhausted, and I for one, was voiceless. We have also had travel films, cooking demonstrations, a lecture on the NAAFI (the regional manager who gave it was a very brave man, we felt, as he invited questions afterwards), and several games evenings.

We are really in the lap of luxury here, for not only does a bus go round to collect the wives, and returns them afterwards, but our tea, coffee and hot pasties are brought over to us from the NAAFI by the fire picket, who very obligingly clear away and take everything back afterwards. This is wonderful for us, who only have to pour out and help ourselves, but judging from the language which sometimes filters through the door, the carrying of the heavy and scalding tea urns is not a bed of roses. But we are very grateful to them as it means a real evening out for us, away from the chore of having to get, and clear away, a meal.

Our winter session of meetings has now come to an end, as with the start of the training season, husbands are inconsiderately away on exercises at odd times, and so cannot baby-sit. This is a major problem, so the Committee are going into a huddle over it, and we shall try and find out, through the haze of security, when Units can expect to be in Hameln, and so time our meetings accordingly.

We hope that the Club will go on enjoying the support it now has, but the fact that it is a going concern

at all is entirely due to Mrs. Battye, our President, who, by her efforts and behind-the-scenes organisation has brought it up to its present level. We are all very grateful, and we look forward to next season with anticipation.

#### ON LOCATION

"Action!": a stealthy figure in Fantasian uniform creeps up to the section post. The sentry is not to be caught napping and with a sure shot another Fantasian bites the dust.

"The Battalion Intelligence Section in Battle," starring Pte. Mishkin as the Fantasian who bites the dust, with a full supporting cast from "A" Company, the Mortar Platoon and bangs by 25 Field Squadron, should reach the A.K.C. training film library within the year.

It all started in October of last year. Would the Battalion help out with some extras for a training film? But, of course, only too delighted! In the event the greater part of the Battalion had to come to terms with Pinewood.

The film unit arrived in mid-March and stayed for about ten days, including three days at Sennelager. The Battalion's part in the film consisted in providing soldiers to jump out of brewed up vehicles, cross the Weser in rubber boats and provide doubles for those outside shots which could not be taken in the studios.

For most of "A" Company and a section of the Mortar Platoon "Action!" replaced "Move!" and "First position please!", "As you were!". For everyone involved it was an interesting glimpse of another way of life, although fraught with the misunderstandings that such a mixture will produce. The night of the Schermooly Rocket was one such that few, who took part, will forget.

Another interesting aspect of the film was the co-operation of the 11th Panzer Grenadier Battalion of the Bundeswehr, who provided a number of tracked armoured personnel carriers and some excellent "mock-ups" to represent Fantasian armoured vehicles. It was odd to see a paragraph in German appearing at the foot of "A" Company detail and it was fortunate that L/Cpl. Cousins was at hand to act as interpreter.

Film-making is certainly a change from the routine of soldiering in B.A.O.R. and there is no doubt that "The Battalion Intelligence Section in Battle" will be watched with interest. After all, somewhere in the 90-minute film will be the results of ten days' endeavour by up to 150 men: seven or eight minutes' screen time!

#### WINTER WARFARE TRAINING CENTRE — WINTERBERG

In the New Year there were several changes in the permanent staff. Major De Gaye took over as Commandant and Mr. O'Regan as Administrative Officer. A large draft of National Servicemen were given an early release from the Army and replaced from Hameln.

Snow conditions were perfect for both courses run during January, and the addition of Capt. Torsten Söderhorn of the Swedish Army did much to raise the standard of instruction. Capt. Söderhorn, an officer of the Swedish Royal Life Grenadier Regiment, soon became a well-known personality in Winterberg and



(Left to right) Major Clayden, Capt. McManus and Capt. Söderhorn

we were all sorry to see him go, although we hope to see more of him.

The Second Division Ski Championships were held at Winterberg starting at the end of January. Both this meeting and the B.A.O.R. Ski Meeting held in the middle of February place a heavy load on the Centre and it is to the credit of all ranks that the Centre housed and fed very many more people than it was designed to do. The detachment also ran the range for the Patrol and Biathlon races. Letters of appreciation were received from all interested quarters.

During the ski meetings the snow was disappearing fast and in the event there were to be no more courses held at Winterberg this winter. There followed a honeymoon period of fine warm weather and sunshine, so that when we closed three weeks ahead of time on March 10 we were all sorry to leave. It was a matter of "au revoir" rather than "adieu" for some as "B.A.O.R. Leave Centre, B.F.P.O. 16" is often to be seen on weekend leave passes!

#### BATTALION SKI TEAM

Officer in charge of ski-ing: Capt. A. E. McMANUS

The greater part of the team's training was carried out at Winterberg and the rather better cross-country, as opposed to downhill, runs available were reflected in the results of both 2nd Division and B.A.O.R. Championships.

This year the entry lists for both Divisional and B.A.O.R. Championships were longer than ever before. The improvement in Battalion standards was shown by the overall results in the B.A.O.R. Meeting: 13th of all units competing in all events and in Cpl. Holland's very good result (8th out of 15) in the British Open, Army and B.A.O.R. Biathlon. The Biathlon is a cross-country race over 20 kilometres, with firing at four points. This year it was held over a very gruelling course in warm and oppressive weather that proved very taxing to the runners. Further, due to a mistake by the committee, the course was almost 4 kilometres longer than it should have been!

The following represented the Battalion:

Cross-country and Patrol: Lt. A. B. Cowing\*, Cpl. R. Holland\*, Pte. O'Brien\* and Pte. Adams.\*

Downhill: Capt. A. E. McManus, Capt. J. Durnnell, Cpl. R. Holland\* and Cpl. K. Niles.\* Novices: Lt. G. Goring, 2/Lt. E. Rayner, L/Cpl. D. Bartlett, L/Cpl. T. Forder, Pte. M. Reynolds and Pte. J. Jones.

\* Awarded Battalion Colours.

Some extracts from the results are given below:

2nd Division Patrol Race: 6th of 17 starters.

2nd Division Novices Downhill: 2nd of 14 starters.

2nd Division Novices Slalom: 4th of 13 starters.

2nd Division 4 x 10 km. Relay: 8th out of 20 starters.

B.A.O.R. 4 x 10 km. Relay: 21st out of 50 starters.

B.A.O.R. Individual Cross-country: Cpl. R. Holland, 37th of 217 starters.

B.A.O.R. Patrol Race: 16th of 31 starters.

It is interesting to note that in overall results the Battalion finished ahead of all other Infantry Battalions. This was made possible by good performances in the "Infantry" events—Cross-country and Patrol Races.

#### EXERCISE "HAPPY WANDERER" (March 6-11, 1961)

Remembering the success of our Summer Company Week in Essen, Nos. 1 and 3 Platoons decided to visit the very beautiful area of the Harz Mountains in the first week of March. The object of the exercise was to live as Platoons under canvas, practise map reading, learn something of the border area and generally get fit.

Sunrises of 1 and 3 rec'd and found two splendid camping areas in the vicinity of Altenau, a picturesque village of the Swiss mountain type. As a precaution the local police were informed and that evening a telegram was received informing us we could not go there. However, remembering friends of old, Herr Reike, last year's Brigade ski instructor, was found and No. 1 Platoon was given an area round Herr Reike's Gasthaus in Clausthal-Zellerfeldt (with all facilities), and No. 3 Platoon camped on a hilltop overlooking the Eastern Zone, 4 kilometres from Clausthal-Zellerfeldt. With No. 1 Platoon were the Signals who were practising skywave in the Harz, and whom we looked after. Cpl. Brumwell, who was acting as Platoon Sergeant, managed to feed and look after both Platoons.

On arrival in the Harz camps were set up and evening meals prepared. Fortunately there was glorious weather which stayed with us the whole week. In the absence of Lt. Lofting on the first day Cpl. Quinn managed No. 3 Platoon and prepared their first day's work of map reading. No. 1 Platoon's first day began with instruction in basic mountain climbing from our expert Cpl. Fisher. Then the three Sections under Cpl. Fisher, L/Cpl. Goodall and L/Cpl. Mitchell, armed with ropes, set off to conquer the heights. The Sections took lunch and had the whole day out, thoroughly enjoying themselves. That evening some local German students challenged No. 1 Platoon to a game of football. Tired though they were the challenge was accepted and, though the Platoon put up a stalwart effort and Hayman and Allen ran about with surprising vigour, we lost. The Germans, however, commended us on our sportsmanship, though we are not sure if



**"HARZ FEET"**

Cpl. Lynch, Pte. Nicholson, L/Cpl. Whelan,  
Pte. Forbes and Pte. Skelton

Lindsay clad in ammunition boots, our opponents wearing P.T. shoes, was included in this.

An excellent dinner meal prepared by the Platoon's cook, Ron Abrey, was very welcome. Although it was still very cold at night all slept well in their Arctic tents, tired but happy.

On Wednesday both Platoons had an exercise involving map reading, field craft and general initiative. Section base camps were set up at a position unknown to the other Section of the Platoon. The Section Commander, given a certain amount of information, had to set out recon patrols to seek the other Section post and bring back information. Enough rations were



**"HARZ BEER"**

(Left to right) Ptes. Horridge, Cole, Hawkins,  
Richardson and Hodge

taken for 18 hours, the Sections returning about midnight. Next morning, after a "lie-in," the Platoons were taken in hand by the Signals and learned something of the wonders and intricacies of the C42 and 19 sets. That afternoon No. 3 Platoon did a map-reading exercise and No. 1 Platoon were taken by 3-tonner to a small lake in the Harz, where they amused themselves under their Section Commanders. In the evening we had a big "get-together" in Herr Reike's Gasthaus. Golding of the M.T. tried, some say with success, to fix Lt. Lofting up with a young lady, and it was noted that Jim Allen was having a wonderful time. Cpl. Brumwell was presented by Herr Reike with a bottle of champagne which made the night memorable for him.

Next day the Platoons broke camp and in the afternoon returned to Hameln.

The exercise was a great success, so much so that no one wanted to return to barracks until September. All objects were achieved, even though a certain amount of blisters had to be treated by Sunray. In addition many friends were made and we hope to revisit the Harz again soon.

#### CHURCH NOTES

The past quarter has been quiet and uneventful—despite our efforts!

Several attempts were made to introduce outsiders to church worship but with little permanent result. Company Services, Sportsmen's Service, Parents' Service all brought in their couples, but left the dozens untouched.

Our normal congregation fluctuated according to circumstances and Saturday evening occasions. One often considers it a pity that "Saturday Night" couldn't be held on some other night.

The experiment in having a "Padre's Day" with each Company was quite successful and most attenders found something to interest and instruct them. Many expressed a desire for more and it is hoped to oblige them later.

Special services this year, such as Saints' Days celebrations and Lenten Services, were held in the chapel of the Church Army's Club. It seemed a homelier place for the faithful few rather than using the garrison church.

Capt. White of the Church Army has been most co-operative in this respect and is an invaluable asset to the Chaplain.

The Sunday evening services held in the Pipers' Club have proved well worth while, the congregation having trebled in the course of a year. The Middlesex support for this has been mainly confined to three hard-working Orderly Room clerks. Unfortunately two of these will have been demobbed by the time this is in print. They were very useful in producing all sorts of typed and cyclostyled material for the Chaplain. One of them, L/Cpl. Hennessy, was confirmed by the Bishop of Maidstone on his visit to B.A.O.R. in March.

Just before the "Exercise Season" began, the chaplaincy of B.M.H. Rinteln was handed over to Hameln's Chaplain, which unfortunately means that opportunities for getting away on these exercises is very limited. Reckoning up mileages it is found that the Chaplain



**THE CHURCH ARMY**

Capt. Derek White and Miss Bobbie Jarvis

covers as many miles some weeks as most major exercises. He will soon become known as "Will o' the Wisp."

#### BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

This is a busy time of year for the Battalion Orderly Room and Intelligence Section. The object of these first-ever notes is not really to complain about just how much work there is but at least it affords a chance to let the "teeth" Companies know that whatever they are up to the paper war goes on.

Our hardest worker is undoubtedly C/Sgt. Cripps, who seems to get shorter as his hours get longer. His predecessor, O.R.Q.M.S. Soper, wrote in February from Singapore hoping we were enjoying the snow as the temperature there was 90 degrees F. and 83 degrees in the water. The Colour-Sergeant's comments were unprintable. Sgt. Gibbs continues in his own sweet way and is very much in love; at least he is quickly to be put out of his misery, whereas Cpl. O'Gorman has to wait until August. The latter's only outward and visible sign of impending matrimony is that he no longer plays rugger. L/Cpls. Cooper and Hennessy have reluctantly left for civilian life, the latter £200 the poorer. Pte. Caton now works for the Q.M. where there is some female attraction. Pte. Painter, who replaced him, has produced one or two gems as dispatch clerk and further developments are awaited. Pte. Fordham has gone to Norway for six months to the B.A.O.R. Adventure Training Centre—strange as it may seem he is ideally suited for the job, as he speaks Norwegian, has a Swedish girl friend, and long enough hair to keep out the cold. Ptes. Gower, Hoare and Buckridge soldier on in Hameln, taking it in turns to do battle with Seagull as Part I Orders Clerk.

The Intelligence Section, of course, have been far less busy than the B.O.R., though their artistic capabilities increase every day. The I.O., Lt. Legg, has been away for some time doing the Paymaster's work (he was on leave) and "I" Section funds are now high.



Sgt. Butler watching Pte. Thomas

Sgt. Butler continues to control his missions with a benign hand and has taken to imbibing cider. L/Cpl. Stanborough left recently, a great loss to the Battalion soccer XI and even the Section. Ptes. Clarke and Thomas are now the old inhabitants, though ill-health prevents the latter giving of his best and his hands get cold. Ptes. Ayliffe and Harron have joined more recently, but have quickly solved the mysteries of the Command Post.

Both departments are a bit thin on the ground at the moment and the next draft is eagerly awaited. Then we shall once again get our full quota of leave—at least we never have any difficulty in getting a train booking.

#### INTELLIGENCE SECTION

With the onset of spring the Intelligence Section has crawled out of its hibernation. We would be quite happy to sleep on until the sun was really up, but other members of the Battalion seem to have caught spring fever and want to gambol in the meadows. As no one goes out of the barrack gates without at least one map we are kept pretty busy. The spring is also the "silly season" for senior officers who suddenly have bright ideas about bigger and better wall-charts—so our draughtsmen have their noses to the drawing board.

Sgt. Butler and L/Cpl. Stanborough had an eventful journey to Belgium in a 1-tonner and visited about every British unit in and around Antwerp. Despite a German border official who did not wish to let them re-enter Germany—well, you can see his point—they eventually returned to the fold safe and sound.

We say good-bye to Capt. Lloyd who has gone off to command that ever-growing empire, "D" Company. In his place we welcome Lt. Legg. He was rather unlucky. Just as he was congratulating himself on



L/Cpl. Stanborough and Pte. Ayliffe

having landed a pretty "cushy number" he found he had to play at being Paymaster—and what a game!

L/Cpl. Stanborough has finished his two-year "stretch" and has left us for England and civilisation. His departure is a serious loss to both the "I" Section and the Battalion football team. We all wish him the very best of luck.

Pte. Ayliffe has joined us from the Junior Leaders Battalion of the Royal Signals—please don't ask us *how* this happened; stranger things than this occur in this Section. We see little of him as he appears to have made firm friends in the Q.M.'s, the M.I. Room, the Pay Office and anywhere else where you can have a good natter for a couple of hours. And now he has gone on leave—possibly to get some fresh topics of conversation from home.

During all these comings and goings Sgt. Butler has carried on as always, assuring everyone that the Section is there to help whenever needed without actually committing us to anything.

Ptes. Ayliffe and Clark found the strain of work too much for them and retired to bed for a few days with German measles. Not to be outdone, Thomas went to Rinteln to have his tonsils out. That only leaves one member of the Section not mentioned—Pte. Harron. He stoically listens to the rest of us discussing our operations and diseases in lurid detail but, although he tries hard, he is still disgustingly fit. All our well-wishers will be glad to hear that with the rush of exercises and unexpected fresh air all members are feeling very much better and should be fit enough to enjoy the leave they so richly deserve.

#### HEADQUARTER COMPANY

O.C. . . . . Capt. R. D. Fisher  
C.S.M. . . . . W.O.2 R. E. Dodkins  
C.Q.M.S. . . . . C/Sgt. P. F. Garraty

At the time of writing these notes the training season is getting into full swing again, with all that that means. The Company as a whole has already taken part in

three or four exercises, from the O.C., who, with Sgt. Briggs, L/Cpl. White and the remainder of the "Highway Patrol," has been finding with almost uncanny accuracy the very best places in which to bog down the Signals' 3-tonner and the remainder of Battalion Headquarters, to the drivers and drummers, storemen and signallers, cooks and clerks who do much sterling work on these occasions. More of these in their own departmental notes.

Before we pass on to the more detailed accounts of the doings of all who make up this far-flung empire of "H.Q." Company, a word regarding comings and goings. Major Bellers left us in February after some time as our O.C. We were very sorry to see him go, but wish him and his family all good fortune at Canterbury. Meanwhile, we welcome Capt. R. D. Fisher to the Company as Major Bellers' replacement, and hope that he enjoys his stay in Hameln. We also welcome Lt. Bulloch to "H.Q." Company as Assistant Adjutant and O.I.C. Corps of Drums.

#### Q.M. DEPARTMENT

Q.M. . . . . Capt. A. E. F. Waldron  
R.Q.M.S. . . . . W.O.2 Cooper

A further hectic period has been overcome and we have successfully closed the Winter Warfare Training Centre and after many anxious moments closed the account, the Q.M. and Sgt. Langford having to convince the Ordnance Depots concerned the real meaning of "fair wear and tear." Immediately after this the majority of the staff proceeded on Exercise "Mad Hatter." This was an Echelon exercise and was much enjoyed by all. The R.Q.M.S. put on his combat kit, the first time for many moons, and graced us with his presence. He had not forgotten the drill—the rum bottle being produced at the appropriate time. Sad is the tale to follow: whilst the Q.M. was away on an "O" Group, C.S.M. Dodkins, the R.Q.M.S. and the local stationmaster consumed the bottle less one tot. Two trains a day passed through this busy station and after Pte. Parry had seen this happen he decided that a quick brew alongside the railway line would kill time. However, suddenly frantic shouts were heard from L/Cpl. Kelly (R.A.O.C.), "train coming." The Q.M. ran along the platform and convinced the train driver that it was necessary for him to stop. Meanwhile the Joneses and Parry had removed the hydroburner and containers from the line. The Q.M. was later heard to be muttering "must be an excursion." L/Cpl. White has built a most magnificent bar for the Corporals' Mess. His time limit was 28 days and for the first time ever the job was completed under the time limit. Well done Blanco. Flapper Partridge is still guarding his accommodation stores with zeal, but thinks he might have to sign on because he is getting a rather high forehead. Cpl. "Bilco" Stubbings suddenly found he had been invaded by "woolly bear" on certain items of winter kit. Bowo saved the day by signing the board. S/Sgt. Girling's (R.E.M.E.) team continues to grow, Simpson has become a Lance-Corporal and a new Craftsman named Martin arrived after three years in Hong Kong with the Gurkhas. We hope his stay will be as long and successful as Uncle

Ted. Cpl. Kirkpatrick is still trying to convince the Q.M. that the Pioneers are overworked. The R.Q.M.S. says that young soldiers should be seen but not heard. Pte. Lewin rushed away on leave, the lads say to be married; we await his return and excuse, C/Sgt. Nicholson, Pte. McSweeney and little Ward continue to appease the families. Nick is very fatherly to the young wives and appears to advise on all problems. We have said good-bye to Flash Hammond, Brickell and Carter and wish them every success in civilian life and look forward to their return in due course.

A hearty welcome is extended to Pte. Caton (free transfer from the Orderly Room) and Pte. Sheffield (also no payment). These are the new clerks. Sheffield is the son of ex-Sgt. "Shiney" Sheffield well known to the Q.M.

#### M.T. PLATOON

M.T.O. . . . . Capt. P. Donovan  
Lt. M. Rose  
Sgt. Pritchard

Yet another quarter has passed, and again we record the events and highlights that have caught the eye of your roving reporter. The most noticeable event being the sharp increase in the number of M.T.O.s to be found in the Battalion, all due to the decentralising of the unit's transport, by handing over to the rifle companies their company vehicles, and thus giving many critics of the Platoon ample opportunity to try their hands. However, instead of easing the burden of the very hard-worked M.T. we now spend a great amount of our time in an advisory capacity, and in saying the fateful words of "Sorry, old chap, but that is your own pigeon," or words to that effect. It also falls to the M.T. Clerk, L/Cpl. Brown, to answer to almost every telephone call the message of "All above the Adjutant's signature is an order and all below is regarded as information value only."

Then as if to keep up with our friends in the companies we were able to welcome to the fold as A/M.T.O., Lt. Rose, who is at the moment busy getting the next M.T. Cadre into shape, the result of which will compensate for the large increase in the number of vehicles held, and in addition he has been shown the secrets of vehicle documents in which the only reply made to date has been that they are not like the old 416/7's.

Sgt. Pritchard managed to extend his U.K. leave a little, leaving Cpl. Minett to brave the storm, and Cpl. Ducky had a recent ten-day party to celebrate the arrival of a son. Cpl. Robins has at last taken a hint and removed the tribe from the radio to the seclusion of under the bed (much to everyone's relief) and I must not forget to mention the N.C.O./c Hoppers' Club, Sgt. Hawes, who fell foul of his annual P.E. tests; thus he joined Ptes. Beale and Castle, the former who braved many weeks on the sticks and finally came a cropper just as the free leave came into sight, the latter on his very first day in the hill country, but we hope that they will again be able to put their best feet forward.

To the clan as Big Chief R.E.M.E. has come Sgt. Peacock, who was soon brought down to earth by a visit from the M.C.S.P. (leaving in their wake the usual number of V.O.R.s), coupled with the usual non-



Pte. Reynolds apparently quite happy with some outdoor cooking on a recent trip to Dusseldorf

availability of stores and shortage of fitters. Still, we managed to get enough vehicles to get the Battalion out on Exercise "April Alert," due to a lot of overtime on the part of the R.E.M.E. staff.

Another big event was of course Paddy's Day, March 17, and for what has been called a Cockney Battalion we have a large number of men in green, chief of whom is "Migenty" or, should we say Pte. Jamieson, who spent a greater part of the day explaining that the lump of foliage on his headdress was not an attempt at Cammo, but in fact a bit of Ould Ireland.

Ptes. Fletcher, Goulding, Osborne, Fenemore, Stubbs, Thurston and Yeoman were despatched on a Humber Servicing Course and all, we are happy to say, gave a good account of themselves. Ptes. Lindon and Jevon then attended a Ferret Course at Hohne and we congratulate them on the excellent results obtained.

At this stage may we also welcome to the fold Ptes. James, Jarvie, Fenemore, Whitehouse, Lake and Fitzpatrick. Believe it or not, there is only one capable of being a Duty Driver.

Pte. Thomas has joined our castaway at the M.C.S.P., namely Pte. Russel. Pte. Garner took to the hills and we believe found a Swedish object of interest. Pte. Lay was very down-and-out as a result of a recent patrol, and we believe that the persons encountered were not quite as friendly as those from the far north. Pte. Reynolds, who at the last moment stood in on a ski party at the Harz Mountains for a week found instead it was nearer two months, but he acquitted himself very well in the 2nd Divisional Ski Competition. He returned for a couple of days, but only just to pack for leave, so there is at least another Duty Driver on return. Pte. Whitmore is still giving forth the Whitmore theory of 61. We hardly believe that he is going to get the moon round to his way of thinking, but we like the one about the eternal bit of light. Pte. Desombre has also developed into a two-Specials man; what would happen if he ever has three, we dare not think.

A collection from Antwerp resulted in a very pleasant couple of days out, and a party headed by the M.T.O. found that we have a budding C/Sergeant in our Sarge, who provided some excellent grub.

Even Pte. Stimpson couldn't find fault. This trip provided Cpl. Puckey with an opportunity to be M.T.O., with a total of four drivers. We believe that he has found out that a missing front prop shaft can cause quite a bit of trouble.

Pte. Lake on a recent exercise had a lot of practice in trench digging, due, we believe, to the R.S.M.'s delight in finding how deep it was in the first place. Pte. Holland has created a record in the number of times one can bog a Commer over a 100-yd. stretch of track, and here we must thank Cfmn. Truesdell for his efforts in keeping some vehicles above the surface. Pte. "Percy" Butler and the water truck finished up as usual and has now been banished to the wilds of Sennelager for a few weeks; we wonder if the recovery team there will be so helpful. Pte. Pearce has made his views plain as to the amount of football he has been playing recently, but all we can say is to keep trying to the end. Pte. James has found that after all a man's best friend is his bed, or so it seems. Pte. Goulding found a certain Batsy and Moma quite enjoyable company, but all Pte. Hopkins could manage to say was: "Play the white man." What this was meant to mean, we really don't know.

Now with the training season in full swing and with the petrol rationing behind us, we expect that we will once again be on call 24 hours a day, always willing to provide that excellent service for which we are so well known. Hoping that we end the driving cadre with the same ten vehicles with which we started, and trusting that "Mick" Brown hasn't shaved off his bit of mush on leave, we end these notes.

**STOP PRESS.**—We must remind Pte. Lindon of the fact that one cannot expect a change of course every time one turns a wheel, but never mind, there should not be so much damage with his armoured job.

#### M.T. PLATOON PERSONALITIES

Pte. L. Clarke joined the Platoon 12 months ago, after being named "Nobby" and passing his driving test took over the very important position of the A/C.P. vehicle. A metal polisher by trade (civilian only—no trace of polish being found on his person) he quickly set out to reach the top and now can make a cup of tea with the best of them. A keen soldier, except for his weapons and smart in his turnout, his favourite saying is, "It's like this, Sarge," and proceeds to tell a tale that would put Hans Christian Andersen to shame. He is expert in the detection in N.C.O.-proof hiding places, and with getting away with Duty Drivers. His personal motto seems to be, "Well, it's him or me and I come first," and in coming first his right foot lends him great assistance. A man with a cheerful outlook on Army life and one can say a man to this tough line of action.

L/Cpl. Brown, Mick to his friends, spent his childhood in North America and the Channel Islands. From the latter he has many tales of the German



Pte. Clarke

Occupation which are told with the utmost modesty. On entry into the Boys' Battalion he took a full-blooded part and indeed played a flute in the Corps of Drums. Upon graduation to Man Service he joined the Battalion in Cyprus where he was posted to the then famous "B" Company, where he soon found his way to H.Q. staff. He took part in many actions in the Horrocks and Browne Camp areas. The latter camp he declines to admit as being named after him. He was then posted for a tour of duty to the Gulf of Aqaba, upon return from which he spent many nights in the towers of Pyla Detention Camp. Prior to his return to U.K. he spent some time touring the Middle East and soon after arrival in Germany was pinched, as he puts it, by the M.T.O. and thus came to rule over the M.T. Office, where his F.M.T.'s are a sheer work of art. His hobbies include Rugby, sailing, military history, model making and riding. A B.I.I. tradesman and a driver (but he won't admit it), he is seen at his best on Corporals' Club dance nights, when he never fails to bring the house down. Always one to help another as recent decorations show, L/Cpl. Brown ranks as one of the most popular members of the M.T. Platoon.

#### SIGNAL PLATOON

Lt. P. V. Cheesman  
C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. D. Walters  
Sgt. M. Weston  
Sgt. G. Overton

Much water has flowed under the bridge since our last writing. In fact we have had quite a flood of events, the most notable being "End of Cadre" and the "Classification" which followed. The cry of "Thank — that's over" echoed wildly through the Platoon and seemed to be the loudest in the direction of the instructors. Much to our amazement when the results of the "Classification" came we found that some of us had actually passed. (Must have been a fiddle.)

L/Cpl. O'Riordan on completing successfully his six weeks' course at Hythe.

#### BAND

Bandmaster J. McShane

The time has come once more to make ourselves heard through the world-wide circulation of *The Die-Hards*. The year 1961 promises to be yet another very busy year for us, although from a more varied angle than in recent years. The main milestone that everyone is looking forward to this year is the tour of England which looms large on the not-too-distant horizon. From May 18 until our return to B.A.O.R. on July 24 Hameln will revel in peace and serenity once more.

Since the beginning of the year we have added more kilometres to our wanderings. The most memorable journey perhaps being the one to and from England for a spot of leave which was enjoyed by all who partook of it. Buende, Rinteln and Minden were also graced by the presence of the old "Bag o' Sand."

During this quarter we have had two more weddings, those of our percussionist Bds. Hugman and Bds. "Peg" French. May we all wish both couples all the very best for the future.

We bade farewell recently to two of our National Servicemen. Both were "freed" on the new early N.S. release scheme. The first to go was Mr. Paul Hemmings, who left us for a civil service post somewhere in the Tax Department, so we all made sure we were friendly with this worthy! He was a great loss to the Band in general and the Dance Band in particular, as was the other of our losses Mr. Brian Smith (he assured us that is his real name!). Mr. Smith left us for the comforts of a drawing office, his civilian



Pte. Donovan

By PTE. HUTCHISON

Cadre over, we then proceeded to relax in true Signal Platoon style (only two room inspections a week), and for some time the Distribution Board was covered with the magic word "Leave." Unfortunately all good things come to an end and we are now (almost) all back in the fold with a Platoon which is stronger in numbers than some of the Companies. In fact it has been heard muttered darkly that the Platoon is a Company during duty week.

During February some of our older members suddenly discovered their time was up and disappeared in the general direction of "Civvy Street." The place does not seem the same somehow without them. We lost Cpls. Rand and Haggerty, L/Cpl. (double in slow time) Hubbard, and Ptes. Short, Coles, Lewis, Bowden and Bornett which is a great pity, because now the Colour-Sergeant has to find someone new to call "Big Sloppy —." We also managed to get some replacements for two of the N.C.O.s in the shape of L/Cpl. Anderson who was discovered when they dismantled the Depot, and Cpl. Redrup who actually asked to join us and is now wandering around slightly dazed by the unfamiliar language of Signals. "Paddy" Heslin is paying us one of his rare visits at the moment, having returned from his usual three months' leave and has the cheek to tell us he has only days to go.

Early in March, Pronto took us off to the Harz Mountains for a one-week exercise. During one of the "Skywave" sessions Sgt. Overton and his crew opened up a set in Hameln and got through to the Harz "loud and clear." Unfortunately the control operator on the Harz net refused to believe he was one of us and the "unknown station" was told to get off our net.

On closing we would like to say what an enormous task our Education Officer took on in trying to educate Pronto Minor and Sgt. Overton, also we congratulate



Mr. Paul Hemmings



Mr. Brian Smith

vocation. Unfortunately, he left us without a Dance Band drummer and at the moment we are "borrowing" Pte. Buckridge from the Battalion Orderly Room! Due to the release of these two National Servicemen the modern Jazz Quartette, which featured Fred "The Monk" Hemmings on piano, Brian Smith on drums, has now ceased to exist and the two remaining members of the Quartette, Cpl. Jackson and Bds. Andrews, are now to be seen crying on each other's shoulders as the dreaded "Trad" begins to grow like some malignant cancer upon the Band! Anyway, the very best of luck to these ex-members of the Band and we hope they enjoyed their stay with us as we enjoyed their company.

In the realm of sport the Band have been very active but we suffered a regrettable casualty.

In a hockey match Bds. Wallwork sustained injuries to his mouth from a hockey stick, after which he had to have a tooth removed. We all hope that he makes a speedy recovery. The football team gave our traditional rivals, the Corps of Drums, a sound thrashing, winning the match 4-1. This, one might add, was a surprise, not least to our football team! We are all looking forward to the cricket season now, players and non-players alike, for we will be on tour in England when that arrives.

We welcome to our fold Bds. Thomas, another National Serviceman, and Bds. Roberts, an ex-Boy from Canterbury. Bds. Thomas takes over at the piano from Bds. Hemmings and also swells the cornet ranks, while Bds. Roberts also helps out on the cornet stand.

The Band Social Club is now working at full swing, providing the Band with somewhere nice and quiet to make a noise. Past members of the Band may say, after reading this: "What is this Band Social Club?" Well, it is a converted loft which is made very comfortable by a bit of wallpaper, a few easy chairs, a bar and a

dart-board. A veritable "Home from pub." The Club is appreciated by all members of the Band, as it is a place which provides somewhere to ask colleagues from neighbouring bands to a quiet drink and chat. Why not drop in and see us sometime?

As the sun sinks slowly behind the roof of Battalion Headquarters, and the cry of "More horns" echoes through the Weser valley, we leave you friends until next time. We extend our regards to all old and new friends. Here's hoping a reunion is not too far away.

### CORPS OF DRUMS

Drum-Major . . . . . C/Sgt. J. Lewis

It is some time since anything concerning the activities of the Corps of Drums has been published and surprisingly enough, hardly anything exceptional has occurred that does not have a direct bearing on First Aid and stretcher-bearing.

Of course the Drums have had their normal quota of sport and representation in Battalion activities and have also taken part in one or two exercises, but, in the main, stretcher-bearing has taken precedence over everything else.

The team for the S.B. Competition along with a number of "casualties" have been working hard in perfecting the high standard of proficiency necessary for the competition, and in actual fact they were good enough to take second place to the S.W.B.s in the Brigade competition.

The two exercises in which the Drums have taken part since Christmas were quite interesting, and though the weather was rather unkind, they were both enjoyed by all.

After this we were given a short week of training under the expert guidance of Lt. Bulloch and his staff. It was a pity that it was such a short stay, as it proved most interesting and probably very enlightening for one or two of our members.

Of course, this short week did help us, and after the S.B. Competition we go to Sennelager with the Battalion for our annual platoon training on the excellent range there. Although a not very popular period, it is, of course, very necessary and we should all be considerably better off in our knowledge of Section and Platoon battle drills by the time we return to camp and practise for the Massed Bands in Minden some time in August.

Small-bore shooting is still cropping up once a month and although we are not the worst of teams, it is not one of our major interests.

The Battalion won the B.A.O.R. Championship and Cpl. Hart represented us in the Battalion team.

In the field of sport we have had a number of victories over various teams and this is due mainly to the organising of the team by Dmr. Butler. We look forward to still more victories in not only sport but most of our interests, especially stretcher-bearing.

The Drums have just concluded a very exciting competition. The Connaught Shield is an annual B.A.O.R. competition which includes First Aid and Stretcher-bearing in its syllabus. The Drums at the end of the first day were leading the field by 16 points, closely followed by the Canadians and K.O.Y.L.I. Our young team were up against qualified exponents in these former



(Left to right) "Johnny" Watts, "Ben" Benton, "Silvie" Silvester, "Dave" Pumfrey and "Shiny" Bright, R.S.M.s tomorrow?



By CSM DODKINS

### Third in the Connaught Shield

teams, and in the second day's competition we were overhauled by the Canadians, who were first and the K.O.Y.L.I. who were second. The Drums, a very young team, did exceptionally well and deserve heartiest congratulations.

### "A" COMPANY

O.C.	..	..	Major C. H. Mievile, M.C.
2IC	..	..	Capt. A. E. McManus
C.S.M.	..	..	W.O.2 K. Beale
C/Sergeant	..	..	C/Sgt. W. Smith

These notes must open on a sad note as we have to record that Major J. de Gaye has not only left us but has also left the Army. Major de Gaye has been responsible for many improvements in the life and ways of the Company, not the least of which is the "Acker's" Club. He will be very much missed, and all ranks join in wishing him every success in his new job. We all hope that he will keep in touch from time to time.

The chair has now been filled by Major C. H. Mievile, M.C., who had been with the Army Outward Bound School before joining us. We understand that

he actually enjoys running up and down mountains—we wait to see what we are in for!

The Company has taken to the hills and streams in the last three months. Two platoons carried out an adventure and initiative exercise in the Harz Mountains, while the third made an assault boat trip down the River Weser for the best part of a hundred miles. Further details of these expeditions are given in the platoon notes which follow. It is, however, a matter of record that all ranks taking part learned and practised self-reliance, initiative and the ability to look after themselves. More such expeditions are planned.

We are proud to report also that we won the Albuhera knock-out rugger competition. We won all our games and had only one try scored against us. It is a pleasure to report that the whole Company has a share in this as nearly everybody turned out to cheer the team on.

We also congratulate No. 3 Platoon on winning the Hopton Inter-Platoon Cup for shooting. We are determined that this success will be followed by a good result in the Battalion Rifle Meeting and much practice is already taking place.

The shooting results so far have been largely due to the enthusiasm and help that C.S.M. Beale has produced. Without his ever-ready presence it is certain we would never have reached our present high standard.

Our first major exercise found us in a new role. This resulted in wide dispersion and the Company really had to work as a series of sections. We learned a lot of lessons by our mistakes, but on the whole, we achieved the object as far as we were concerned and got a "pat-on-the-back." Special mention must be made of all our wireless operators, as we had good communications right through the battle. Most of us now know what it is like to be kept "underground" for 48 hours. The wise one will take a book or paper to read when off duty next time.



By CSM DODKINS

### STRETCHER PARTY, CONNAUGHT SHIELD

(Left to right) Dmr. Mason, L/Cpl. Marquiss, Dmr. Catherine and Dmr. Pumfrey



**"A" COMPANY RUGBY TEAM**  
Winners of the Albuhera Competition,  
March, 1961

(Back row) Cpl. Rockell, Sgt. Young, Pte. Marshall, C.S.M. Beale, Pte. O'Brien, Pte. Murphy.  
(Centre row) Pte. Palmer, Cpl. Brumwell, Sgt. Parnell, Cpl. Lynch, Pte. de Gruchy.  
(Front row) Cpl. Cosgrave, C/Sgt. Smith, 2/Lt. Everard, Cpl. Quinn, L/Cpl. Goodall.

In passing, we must record that the whole of the Battalion ski cross-country team, with the exception of the officer, were members of "A" Company. They were Cpl. Holland, Ptes. O'Brien and Adams. We are also proud to state that of the Battalion rugby team we found eight members. They were Sgt. Young, Cpl. Cosgrave, C.S.M. Beale, C/Sgt. Smith, 2/Lts. Everard and Lofting, Pte. O'Brien.

We are now in a state of anticipation for two reasons. First, we are about to be issued with an armoured vehicle for each section. This will change our whole life as the vehicle and the section will become a separate entity and we must revise our general conception of war and become vehicle minded. Secondly, we are to embark on the training season. Some of the things we will do will be old stuff, but we hope with our new-found mobility we shall take on a new lease of life and try out new ideas in old exercise areas. We look forward to a full and interesting season.

#### No. 1 PLATOON

O.C. ... 2/Lt. Everard  
Platoon Sergeant ... Sgt. Davies

The event that sticks in all our minds this quarter was our trip to the Harz Mountains. Thanks to "Scribe" Terry we have a good record which has been of great help in writing these notes. This "cutting" was held in conjunction with No. 3 Platoon and our two "Sunnys" did their stuff well. The site they selected for our camp combined the benefits of fresh air and sunshine and, by a strange quirk of fate, these were found best close to the local Gasthaus! The main activity seemed to be moving across country and stalking each other and these strange ways seemed to have infected the local female population. It is reported

that on at least one occasion feminine voices were heard to enquire about the location of Peter and David! The whole outing was much enjoyed by all the Platoon. It was only spoilt by the substitution of a very loud voice of an unnamed N.C.O. for that of the usual bugle at Reveille.

We are glad to report that Cpl. Meacock has returned from his course at Hythe. He is reported as having said that he showed the S.A.S. "a thing or two." As he talks largely of wine, women and song since his return we wonder how he got on.

The latest adventure in the wilds of Germany was called "April Alert." This exercise was remarkable in that suddenly in the middle of it our gallant leader remembered that his appendix had an appointment with a surgeon in B.M.H. We are glad to report that to date no knife has descended.

The whole Platoon are sorry to say goodbye to Major de Gaye and Ptes. Long and Basley. Good luck to you all in your new ventures. At the same time we welcome to our ranks Cpl. Fisher from the Depot and Ptes. Lindsay, Terry, Green and de Gruchy.

#### No. 2 PLATOON

O.C. ... 2/Lt. Hubert  
Platoon Sergeant ... Sgt. Young

We started the New Year with a venture on to the waters of the River Weser. This was a sequel to the dazzling success of the trip to the lakes of Essen last July. This time we headed south into the American Zone of Germany with assault boats and rations under the guidance of "Castro" (Uno Who from "S" Company) and embarked into the swirling waters. Cpl. McLean and Pte. Holton welded their crews into teams fit to challenge all comers (Cambridge excepted) and with Cpl. Rockell in the boat off we set. After a gentle cruise with much sun-bathing and a little fraternization we arrived by river at Hameln some four and a half days later. We must record that Pte. Mercer was Platoon cook during the voyage and that nobody starved.

We sadly record that Lt. Rose has left us for the doubtful joys of Transport House. May he thrive there. We no longer expect any shortage of M.T. for our exercises.

We welcome in his place our new "skipper," Lt. Hubert. He is the potential "white hope" of the Pentathlon team and we expect to see him mounted and carrying a foil at the slope on future parades. He arrived just ahead of our three newest arrivals—Ptes. Tofts, Fry and Thurlow.

We are sorry to say farewell to two of our most well-known characters—Messrs. Whittle and Bull. Cpl. Whittle has gone to encourage the recruits at Canterbury and "J.B." has left us for the rigours of civilian life. Good luck to them both from the whole Platoon.

#### No. 3 PLATOON

The highlights of the last quarter have been the Battalion Exercise "April Alert" and the Platoon exercise in the Harz Mountains. The latter coming after the winter training season was a very welcome break. Even our most ardent moaners enjoyed themselves.

Some even made remarks as "a few more like this and I might sign on" (War Office please note!).

The "Green Shack" provided opportunities for the members of the Platoon A.A.s to down a few. It was also noted that "Lips" (Marshall) kept the fraternization going in the same establishment. In spite of such diversions we marched a lot and really had to use our feet as "Hot Foot" Nicholson found out to his cost.

"April Alert" was the first big scheme of the season and we were fit and ready to go (according to C.S.M. Beale). Weighed down by anxiety and our kit we set forth into the country and started digging at once. We were all underground by midnight except for Cpl. Quinn and Section who were in a barn. Rats attacked them during the night and a certain person's jersey heavy wool was found to have holes in the morning. Pte. Palmer and his Section had a bad first 24 hours when their second trench, dug after so much sweating, fell in on them. "Wee" Harris and George (Old Mother) Hubbard in trying to evade detection fell into a stream and lost a 5-gallon water can. Tex was not amused as he had to recover the can or pay for it as it was on his charge.

Our rifle team of Cpl. Lynch and Ptes. Taylor, Jolly and Kirnon, and the L.M.G. team of Cpl. O'Keefe and Pte. Palmer, carried off the Hopton Cup in the face of competition from the other Platoons of the Battalion. Well done!

Cpl. O'Keefe must also be heartily congratulated on not only winning the Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race but in breaking the record by 2½ hours.

Last but by no means least in the congrats section we pat on the back the Platoon members of the Company rugby team—Sgt. Parnell, Cpls. Quinn and Lynch, and Ptes. Palmer, O'Brien, Marshall and Taylor (nearly 50 per cent. of the team), and, of course,



**EXERCISE "APRIL ALERT"**

Lt. Rose, Major Galvin, Brigadier Sharp and  
Lt.-Col. Bamy

to Cpl. Holland and Ptes. Adams and O'Brien for skiing and Cpl. O'Keefe and Pte. Nicholson for cross-country, for which they were awarded Battalion Colours.

We now look forward to a hectic training season of the usual mixture. To help us we welcome Ptes. Boast, Hossack, Lewis (13) and Smith (82) from "Briggs' Corner House." Ptes. Hubbard and Cleasson have also come to help but not from the same exalted address.

#### "B" COMPANY

Company Commander ...	Major J. N. Shipster, D.S.O.	
2IC ...	Capt. H. M. du V. Lohan	
	Lt. M. Julian	
C.S.M. ...	W.O.2 Jessup	
C.Q.M.S. ...	C/Sgt. Eldridge	
No. 4 Platoon	No. 5 Platoon	No. 6 Platoon
Lt. Pitman	2/Lt. Freeborn	Lt. Goring
Sgt. Scott	Sgt. Clements	Sgt. Raffael
Cpl. Turner	Cpl. Pollard	Cpl. Fisher
Cpl. McFarlane	Cpl. Da Costa	Cpl. Shave
L/Cpl. Hills	Cpl. O'Rawe	Cpl. Fleet
L/Cpl. Chapman	L/Cpl. Jolliffe	L/Cpl. Smith

Looking back over the last quarter, three events stand out clearly in "B" Company. The first and foremost is that we have now said farewell to Major Clayden, who has left us to take up his new job as 2IC of the Battalion. We wish him the best of luck, but are somewhat fearful as to what little exercises he will hatch for us in future! The second event was Exercise "Red Rose" held in January, and third was the forming of the "Saddle Club."

We set out for "Red Rose" in driving snow and sub-zero temperatures; not even our friends downstairs ventured outside. However, we proved three things: First, that the Company had not forgotten the training it had been given over the last season; secondly, the men were tough enough to train in really cold con-



By PTE. DURLING

Ptes. Zorlu and Connell and L/Cpl. Dcawsett

ditions; and thirdly, that our cooks under C.Q.M.S. Eldridge can cook first-class food consistently, whatever the conditions.

The "Quiet Room" on the first floor had never really been a success and we heard a great deal of talk about the "Nackers Club" or something, so we got down to planning the club to end all clubs. The C.Q.M.S. thought that a Western Saloon would be a good theme to work on and in a few days he produced the "Crazy Horse Saloon Bar," or as it is called in official circles, "The Saddle Club." An attic was converted, a magnificent bar built and Western type drawings produced by all and sundry. A noose was erected for over-zealous visitors. I believe a member of a certain Company decided to end it all, a sort of private "lynch party."

Anyhow, the Club, run by the men themselves, has proved a great success and we hope it will continue to be so.

As these notes are written our temporary Company Commander has handed over to Major Shipster, whom we welcome to "B" Company, and wish him the very best of luck. He came just in time, as rumours were spreading that the next Saturday morning room inspection was going to be on horseback.

It would be fitting to mention here how splendidly C.S.M. Jessup has worked for the Company over the last four months. It is no mean task to keep the continuity in the Company with three different Company Commanders in nearly as many months.

### Sport

The main events have been the Albuhera Rugby Competition, individual boxing and participation in Battalion sports by various members of the Company.

In the Rugby the Company finished third. The team was trained under L/Cpls. Jolliffe and Turner with the guidance of Sgt. Raffael. Some of the games were unnecessarily rough, but good refereeing prevented the games from being spoilt. Special mention must be made of the good Rugby played by Cpl. Shave and Ptes. Mounsey, Jones (86) and Pryor. I think we learned a great deal from this competition, and all the team would endorse the comment that it is a great pity the Company rugby season is so short, weather being our worst enemy in this respect.

Congratulations to Pte. Clarke (89) for his boxing. He won the 2nd Division Individual Middleweight Boxing Competition. When asked by a friend how he got on in the B.A.O.R. Individual Boxing at Berlin, his reply was, "Guess it was O.K. man." Well, we say more than that; it was a magnificent and plucky effort to be runner-up in the finals. Well done Clarke, keep it up. We congratulate Ptes. Clarke (89), Seatory and Warnock on receiving their Battalion Colours this season for boxing.

The hockey and basketball teams have both kept up their high standard over the last four months.

Pte. Bassett plays regularly for the Battalion hockey team and Sgts. Scott and Harris are doing very well in the Battalion basketball team.

Pte. Darvell and Sgt. Scott have been playing water polo for the Battalion.

### Shooting

The Company got off to a good start under Major Clayden for the Inter-Company .22 Shooting Competition last November and have kept it up since then. The official results are not out but we believe that No. 6 Platoon have won and Nos. 4 and 5 Platoons will be placed well up. Congratulations to the C.S.M., and Sgts. Clements, Scott and Raffael, who put in a great deal of work for this competition.

### Courses

Sgt. Scott has departed for the Drill Course at the All Arms Drill Wing, Pirbright. We wish him every success.

Congratulations to Sgt. Raffael on obtaining an "A" Grading on the Nuclear and Chemical Ground Defence Course.

Cpl. Miles has departed for the Small Arms Course at Hythe. We hope he is very successful.

### Arrivals

Since our last notes the following have been posted to "B" Company and we wish them well for their stay, be it long or short: Lt. Pittman, 2/Lt. Freeborn, Sgt. Lloyd, and Ptes. Butcher, George, Allen, Burgess and Washer.

### Departures

We say farewell to 2/Lt. Rayner, Cpl. Sheffield, L/Cpl. Pickett, and Ptes. Smith (82), Kandall, Salisbury, McAllister, Thomas, O'Halloran, Gilham (86), Satterthwaite, Peck, Payne (04), Belvoir, Lamb, Manning, Fitzsimmons, Morgan and Priest.

### Promotions

Congratulations to Cpl. Turner and L/Cpl. Chapman on their promotions.

### SGT. "CLEM" CLEMENTS

The No. 5 Platoon hard men lay back on the grass exhausted after the third successive Platoon attack. "You know what?" said the hardest man, wiping the sweat from his brow. "If this man had brains, he'd be dangerous."

I do not believe that any other N.C.O. has served with one particular Company as long as Sgt. "Clem." He has been with "B" Company on and off since 1949, 12 years of truly dedicated service. He joined the Battalion back in '49 and since then has served with it in Hong Kong, Korea, Austria, Cyprus and now B.A.O.R. He has also been at the Regimental Depot as an instructor.

Looking up Sgt. Clements' sporting record, we see that his interest lay with basketball, hockey, football and tug-of-war. When he makes way for the younger soldiers to play you will always find him giving all the support he is capable of. Many people will agree that "B" Company is Albuhera Company partly because of "Clem," as he was always giving the teams the support and confidence that they needed.

Last year his team won the heavyweight tug-of-war and this season he is training up a new team again, as well as helping out in the coaching of field events for the athletics.



Sgt. Clements

Backbone of the Company, backbone in the Sergeants' Mess. A "Becks man," his comrades declare. Who else could fix the draw in the Sergeants' Mess, so that not only did he win most of the prizes but also the single members took the remainder?

Ever seen his little diary that he carries around? It reads something like this:

*Tues. 14 Feb.*—Must get C.S.M. Jessup off his ——— and get him playing hockey, or football or anything. . . .

*Thurs. 23 Mar.*—Book early for Christmas Leave this year, could be a hat trick—who's jealous? Must get my weight down.

*Fri. 24 Mar.*—I like being a "Becks Man."

*Mon. 3 Apr.*—Soldier did not believe I had St. John's Red Cross Certificate. Struck him on head with pace stick. Am recovering slowly. Must get my weight down.

*Tues. 4 Apr.*—Will Miss Alice Finch marry me?

*Wed. 5 Apr.*—Remind C.S.M. Beale to start saving up for another crate of beer.

*Thurs. 6 Apr.*—Who cares about weight, it's very distinguished. . . .

And so it goes on. We last saw him making a special design for a ladder. He was muttering about the new 2IC who will need a bull\*\*\*\* one for this season's tank co-operation. (Must\* be the sun.)

### PTE. "NOBBY" CLARKE

"Nobby" Clarke hails from St. James, Jamaica. Back in '57 he decided he must leave his swaying palms, golden sands and crystal blue waters of the West Indies in order to sample the high life in England. One can still see him on a dark foggy day, shaking his head and muttering: "Man, I must have been mad."

When he arrived in England he took up a job in engineering and was later called up for National Service. His contemporaries will recall the parade at the Depot when the R.S.M. said to Clarke: "Sign on, it's a man's life." Clarke went off the parade and signed.



Pte. Clarke

"Nobby" Clarke is an outstanding sportsman. He plays rugby and cricket for the Company, runs and boxes for the Battalion. His boxing record is worth noting. Last year he won the inter-Company novices middleweight boxing. He was selected to box for the Battalion. He won his weight in the 2nd Division boxing, and finally, this year, reached the final in the B.A.O.R. boxing.

In his spare time he plays cards and dominoes with his friends and would like to take up drumming again. He tells me that he would really like to see a group formed within the Company.

Clarke is a popular soldier and gets on well with everyone. They make many jokes at his expense but they can never get underneath him, he will just laugh and forget it. Maybe that is why he is such a good man.

### "C" COMPANY

Company Commander . . .	Major P. L. Galvin
Company 2IC . . .	Capt. R. J. Durnnell
C.S.M. . . .	W.O.2 Michel
C.Q.M.S. . . .	W.O.2 Potter
No. 7 Platoon . . .	No. 8 Platoon
2/Lt. Monypenny . . .	2/Lt. Finch
	No. 9 Platoon
	2/Lt. Dubbery

### Gen

Since we last went to press, the Company has shrunk to the size of an average platoon. People have been organising chair-lifts and shovelling snow at Winterberg, others enjoying winter sports and baseball with Americans at Murnau and the few that have remained here have been doing their best to get home to England on leave. For the rest of us, the heavy burden of company life and routine has fallen squarely on our shoulders.

### Arrivals

We welcome Major Galvin, fresh from the mountains

of Wales, as our new Company Commander and we wish him every luck because, believe me, he will need it. Also we say hello to: Sgt. Blackwell, Cpls. Cairns and Burrows from the Depot, Sgt. Taylor from the T.A., and Ptes. Wills, Flack, Hudson, Evans and O'Keefe from recruit training.

#### Departures

On the other side of the fence we say good-bye and good luck to the following who have left to make their fortunes elsewhere: L/Cpls. Short, Cocks, Brooks, Wrake, Forder and Ptes. Basford (Regimental Cook), Laffin (Regimental Cook), Keen (Company Clerk), Prior (Storeman) and Lucking (Storeman).

#### Activity

In mid-March we held our first proper Company exercise. It was called Exercise "Fyfas" (and a little imagination will interpret the initials). The general idea was an initiative test with map-reading, and this point was appreciated when people got lost. Each section acted as a team and at the end No. 7 Platoon were declared the winners. Individually, the best sections were those led by Cpls. Niles, Short, Cocks and Dickens.

Almost before the Easter recess had ended the Battalion had its first full-scale exercise of the year. The aim as interpreted by the majority of the Company seemed to be:

(a) The quickest way to get blisters.



Pte. Townsend



Pte. Davis

(b) How to dig in rock in the dark.

Both aims were achieved remarkably quickly and soon everyone was underground, rock or no rock.

#### Personality Parade

(a) Pte. Roy Townsend lives in Tottenham with his young wife Janet and their three-months-old son. Before Roy came into the Army as a National Serviceman he was working at the Regent Garage, Tottenham, as a motor mechanic and learning the trade. In February 1962 when he leaves the Army he will go back to the motor trade again. His ambition is to get to the top and become a high-grade mechanic, specialising in diesel engines.

(b) Pte. Peter Davis lives in Brixton, S.W. London. Before he joined the Army as a six-year Regular he worked for a year in Brixton Market, and then as a clerk with the Decca Record Co. He has recently passed his Army driving test and will shortly be driving an A.P.C. for the Company during exercises this summer. He is keen on driving and intends to take it up professionally when he leaves the Army.

#### Stop Press

Pte. Donald Townshend, with a straight 22-year engagement, has recently gone home to England on leave. During this time, apart from his private activities, Donald Townshend is reported to have collected five recruits for the Middlesex Regiment. So delighted were the Home Counties Brigade Depot that they immediately gave him an extra two weeks' leave.

The moral is: If you want some extra leave at home—let's have some recruits.

#### "D" COMPANY

Company Commander ... Capt. I. M. E. Lloyd  
As it is a rare occasion for "D" Company notes to appear in this Journal your scribe finds it difficult to know where to start. During last summer and autumn the permanent staff were hard at work administering and instructing Cadres for Potential N.C.O.s and to refresh some of the more senior N.C.O.s, prior to promotion or attending a course at Hythe.

The Company has also acted as host and reception committee to the many small drafts arriving from England. We have greeted several old friends returning from Depot or T.A. jobs and many new faces, the last of the National Servicemen and a fair sprinkling of Regular soldiers. As continuation training has not been carried out recently the drafts have only stayed with us one or two nights before being posted to their Companies where they soon get swallowed up in the machine.

There have been some comings and goings in the permanent staff. C.S.M. Da Costa has taken over from C.S.M. Michel who has gone to sort out "C" Company. Soon after his arrival Sgt. Plumb also arrived from "C" Company to assist in training the Battalion shooting team, prior to his posting to Mons O.C.S. as a Drill Instructor. Company Commanders have changed, Major Shipster, still full of ideas, having finally got a Rifle Company. He was replaced by Capt. Lloyd whose chief occupations, when he can be found, are sport and shooting.

With the closing of the W.W.T.C. at Winterberg we found ourselves the proud possessors of the last two N.S. officers in the Battalion, 2/Lt. Rayner and 2/Lt. O'Regan, who are wasting their time out in the Company, doing many and varied odd jobs.

At the time of writing 2/Lt. Rayner can be seen with a harassed expression on his face, surrounded by tiny figures in ill-fitting battle-dress. Yes, the Cadets are visiting us again and, we hope, are enjoying their stay.

2/Lt. O'Regan, on the other hand, is taking a well-earned rest. After four months of winter sports at Winterberg he must be exhausted. However, he returns in time for the Battalion Rifle Meeting on May 2 and 3.

The latest addition to the "Empire" are W.O.2 Thorogood and Pte. Robertson. The W.T.W.O. and his clerk are heartily welcome to the select few, after their sojourn in that amorphous mass known as "H.Q." Company.

Sportswise the Company has been unable to find any teams through lack of numbers. But Company members are allowed to play for their previous Company. Thus Capt. Lloyd and 2/Lt. O'Regan played Rugby for "H.Q.2" and 2/Lt. Rayner played for "B" Company. At Battalion level Capt. Lloyd and Lt. Bulloch play regularly for the Rugby XV, whilst 2/Lt. Rayner and C.S.M. Da Costa play for the hockey XI.

#### Stop Press

More changes in our staff, Lt. Bulloch has sadly packed his bags and left us after a prolonged and successful stay as training officer. We wish him equal success in his "office" job as Assistant Adjutant. We

welcome Sgt. Power who has recently arrived on our strength for no apparent reason but is finding plenty to do. I don't know how!

#### "S" COMPANY

##### Company H.Q.

As the tempo of the Christmas festivities gradually subsided, it became evident that the Company was not due to sustain any major casualties and could at least start the New Year at full strength.

To "limber up" for the training season, "S" Company joined "B" Company in an exercise which was misappropriately named "Happy Fella"! Enjoying the present spring sunshine it is difficult to recall those two coldest days of the year, when the bitter elements almost froze the "Happy Fellarites" immobile! Although the exercise achieved its object, everyone was grateful for the comfort of Block 1 on return to camp.

During February/March the Company once again became responsible for its own transport. This is a burden that the M.T. Platoon has shouldered, but with the recent issue of 40-odd Humber armoured vehicles, they felt, and rightly so, that their plate was quite full enough. 2/Lt. Dudson has been appointed Transport Officer in the Company, and he is perhaps a little apprehensive—but not so our "mechanical king," L/Cpl. Young, who regards the advent of our own trucks with great relish. Now when one passes the open M.T. Office door he can be seen scanning the Vehicle State Board with the "monarch of all I survey" expression and revelling in the joys of M.T. documents.

Change we are told is inevitable, but that does not necessarily convey that it is welcome. We regarded the change of Company Storeman with feelings of regret. Pte. Bateson had become a stalwart of the Company, and the Company Commander once suggested that he be added to the inventory. He has represented the Company in every major sport, and his turn-out has kept him in the front rank on every notable parade. But this is no place for nostalgia, so we hastily extend the welcome hand to Pte. Gordon, his successor, and wish him well in his new employment.

In the realm of sport the fortunes of the Company generally appear to be on the up-and-up. The Mortar Platoon is all set to head the Inter-Platoon League; and in one of the best recent hockey games "B" Company (last year's Albuhera Shield winners) were surprised to realise they could only draw with the Company, the score being two-all. Also Sgt. Lagden's energetic endeavours to produce a Rugby team from scratch must be mentioned.

As a special feature, a photograph of the C.S.M. on his motor-cycle has been included. He can now be seen threading his way around the countryside in the most cautious manner, and always very relieved to dismount from what he vehemently pronounces "His Death Machine."

#### ALBUHERA RUGBY, 1961

The first game on March 27 was against "B" Company and the result—"B" 8, "S" 0 points—was a fair one. The forwards were evenly matched and

"S" managed to gain a fair share of the ball in the scrums with Lt. Mallalieu's height and energy allowing the Company to dominate the line-outs. Unfortunately the lack of accurate passing in the three-quarters was responsible for providing "B" Company with the opportunities to score their two tries and one conversion. We were lucky still to have the services of Pte. Clift (our fly-half) at the final whistle, as he sustained a badly cut lip after being accidentally kicked in the face, but was gallant enough to continue playing.

Our next game against "H.Q.2" was played on March 29, and despite the array of tallent "H.Q.2" produced, the firm and determined tackling of our forwards and our strengthened three-quarter line resulted in only two tries being scored against us, the final result being "H.Q.2" 6, "S" 0.

On March 30 the Company played the two remaining games. The first was against "C" Company whom we managed to pen in their own half for almost the entire game. But despite several fine runs by Cpl. Flanagan in particular on the right wing, "S" were unable to score until a penalty awarded against "C" Company ten yards in front of their own posts allowed Lt. Cowing to put the Company three points in the lead with an excellent kick. This lead we held until six minutes before full-time when an extremely unfortunate miskick allowed "C" Company over our line to equalise.

The final game against "A" Company was an exciting game with several hectic moments for both sides. The pitch was extremely muddy with the ball very greasy indeed, which resulted in scrappy football. Despite the excellent work of our forwards, especially L/Cpl. Atkinson, Cpls. Haffner and Shearing, "A" Company managed to get across our line to make the final result, "A" Company 3, "S" Company 0. The following soldiers represented the Company:

Lts. Cowing and Mallalieu, Cpls. Flanagan, Mc-



C.S.M. Simmons on his "Death Machine"



Cpl. Haffner, L/Cpl. Atkinson, L/Cpl. Forde, Pte. Blackburn, Pte. Hession, Pte. Jones (16), Pte. Caston

Kenzie, Haffner, Beavis and Shearing, L/Cpls. Bartlett, Atkinson and Forde, Ptes. Rochester, Clift, Ward, Caston, Hession, Jones (16), Blackburn, Whittington, Hardman and McGee. All are to be congratulated on playing hard in all games.

#### TRIED HARD

("S" Company Rugby XV)

How to begin my tale of woe,  
Must I write with spirits low!  
Five games were played and none were won,  
No completed winning run!  
Passing forward, tackling high,  
Dashed the hopes of a winning try!

Excuses abound and woes are many,  
But we agreed we'd not use any!  
Pride will we take in the way we played,  
Faltering not at the might arrayed!  
We'll recall the spirit and ignore the score,  
Of the unskilled types on the field by O.H.R.!

SGT. LAGDEN

#### Anti-Tank Platoon

We have just seen the end of the winter season, a period of reorganising, sports and training. It was last November after the administrative inspection, that the Platoon started its first Company Cadres. The aim was to train Rifle Company personnel ready for the change over to the proposed "774" establishment. Whether it succeeded will not be known as yet, but we sincerely hope that they at least enjoyed the change from being mere riflemen! Lt. Cowing also attended the cadre and on completion took over the Platoon from Lt. Waite, who had been with it since Cyprus.

It was while we were on a cadre exercise that Pte. Wells lost his watch whilst asleep in a haystack. When he woke and discovered the loss the Platoon Commander had the haystack pulled to pieces but the watch was not



#### HALF-TIME BRIEFING

Lt. Mallalieu, Pte. Jones (16),  
Cpl. Haffner, L/Cpl. Atkinson,  
Ptes. Hession, Blackburn, Caston  
and Lt. Cowing

found. A month later it was returned by L/Cpl. Hilton's father-in-law, who happened to be a friend of the farmer on whose property the haystack was situated. Lesson to be learnt: "Never kip in a haystack while on guard, Pte. Wells."

December was a quiet period and during that month many of the Platoon had a chance to ski. In fact our "Sunray" left us as soon as he took over command of the Platoon, and did not return until the middle of February. Ask Sgt. Lagden!

Pte. Vass was one of those who went to Murnau and returned covered in American badges.

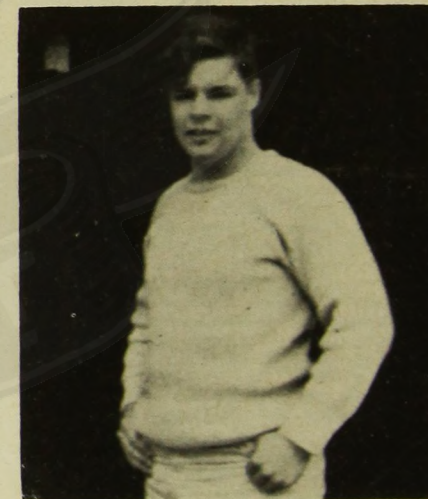
January saw lots of snow in and around Hameln and so a scheme was promptly arranged called "Happy Fella." It was so cold that the eggs even froze solid, which Cpl. Haffner found to his dismay, while Pte. Issacs found that not only had his water-bottle frozen, but it had also split at the seams. At least it was good training for Arctic warfare!

Last, but not least, we welcome to our ranks Ptes. Ward and Caston and hope that they enjoy their stay with the Platoon.

#### CPL. HARVEY HAFFNER

Cpl. Haffner, alias Beatnik Harvey, was born in Penge, a settlement in the corner of Kent. He was second in line to hold the name of Harvey out of a troupe of four, and much to the disgust of the Penge-granians and the local constabulary (who tried to make an honest and sober citizen of him) turned out to be the Harvey we know today. He was educated at Oakfield School who installed the three R's into him (Rackets, Reefers and Riffi). He eventually scored his "Blue" by being able to represent his school at the local Magistrate's Court.

On graduation from school he took up the professional position with a local firm in Penge of dynamo minder and char wallah. He was pensioned off after nine months, much to the relief of the management. He decided to seek employment further afield and took up the position of "mixer fixer" at the other end of Penge, which he kept for a further nine months. By



Cpl. Haffner



*Pte. Patmore, Pte. Webb, Pte. Hardman, L/Cpl. Howe, Pte. Chance, Pte. Jones (16), L/Cpl. Haffner, Pte. Toner, Pte. Blackburn, Pte. Sheppard, Pte. Budd, Pte. Jones (76), Pte. Bennis, Pte. Austin, Pte. Russell, Pte. Whittington, Pte. Grenfell, Pte. Wilson, Pte. Wells, Pte. Neilson, Pte. Robinson, Pte. Rochester, Pte. Turner*

After such a successful period of employment he decided to retire. It was then that the general public first heard the now well-known mutterings of "Down with barbers," but alas, his "bill" failed to get its first hearing in the "House," much to the disgust of the anti-"Lou" campaigners—whom he was very soon to join at the Depot.

Civilisation came to Penge in the form of conscription. After hearing of such a splendid record the Army decided that they would like to put their training personnel up against this most unique specimen ever to enter the Depot gates at Mill Hill. After admitting that one cannot be an individualist against such a large machine as the M.M.L. he knuckled down to his ten weeks' basic training and passed out with the appearance of normality. The Depot sent him home to give the Permanent Staff time to recuperate, but all good things must come to an end and back came Harvey.

Much to the delight of the Dutch people and the chagrin of the German population, he passed through Holland and deposited his "bulk" in Hameln. There was rather a large gap in the Anti-Tank Platoon and the powers-to-be swept him into the "breach." Talent which had lain dormant was here exposed and Harvey soon obtained a much sought after, but rarely achieved, Anti-Tank Gunner's grading. From thence ambition knew no bounds and he slowly climbed the ladder of promotion, even beginning to enjoy that much-despised thing, namely, sport. He now bears the burden of full Corporal, although the members of his detachment reckon the burden is on them and not on Cpl. Harvey Haffner.

#### Mortar Platoon

The period January-April is always a difficult period to write about as it always seems to be the lull before the advent of another summer's training season. So we have to look deep into our crystal ball to remember what we have achieved since these notes were last written.

As regards winter training the highlight was Company Exercise "Happy Fella," which will long be remembered as the coldest two nights out ever. The cold was so intense that such items as shaving soap inside tubes froze up. The remarks that passed about potatoes—which had become small lumps of granite—are not to be mentioned here. However, we all survived and towards the end of February moved to Munster Lager to fire the remainder of last year's ammunition.

The Platoon was fortunate in the allocation of a camp site which was within a couple of hundred yards of two Gasthauses. Ptes. McGee and Neilson were delighted, of course! Although it rained overnight nearly everybody managed to stay dry and warm owing to the excellent sleeping bags.

The following morning saw us on the range and a very interesting and worthwhile day was spent ranging, etc. Then to finish we expended all the remaining ammunition in an effective display of fire which actually



**DEMOB. PARTY**

*Ptes. Wells, Kerrison and Bateson*

landed on the target! (Platoon Commander please note!)

From March 21 to 24 Sgt. Partridge and a Section were involved in the making of a War Office training film at Sennelager. The first morning certain members (including the Platoon Sergeant, let it be noted!) had their dreams shattered when the Mortar Section joined up on the square as part of "A" Company muster parade. The next day a well-drilled Section found themselves on the ranges digging a complete Mortar Section position and luckily the ground, being rather sandy, made the task easy in spite of C.S.M. Beale!



*Pte. Gibbs takes it easy!*

On Wednesday the position was occupied and although the weather was rather unpredictable the film unit managed to get some good shots of a Mortar Section in action, one of which included a glimpse of Cpl. "Clarke Gable" Shearing. Rumour has it that he now confidently expects a film test as a result.

#### Other News

The Platoon did well coming second in the Hopton Cup, with Cpl. McKenzie and L/Cpl. Walsh sharing first in the L.M.G. pairs.

Spring is on its way and swept along with it were Ptes. Austin and O'Shaughnessy whom we congratulate on their recent marriages.

L/Cpls. Walsh and Forde are also both congratulated on becoming proud fathers.

We finish on one last cheerful note. Cpl. McKenzie, together with Pte. Johns, won the football pools to the tune of £54. "No luck still" is the gloomy thought of the Platoon Commander and Platoon Sergeants' syndicate!

#### Pte. D. Johns

Pte. Johns comes from Edmonton, London. Prior to joining the Army he worked as an earthenware pottery maker.

Johns decided to join the Army in order to lead a more active and outdoor life. It also offered him travel overseas. He chose to join the Middlesex Regiment



*Pte. Johns winning the 3-mile race in Albuhera athletics*

because it is the County Regiment, and also as the result of some very convincing sales talk by the Army Recruiter at Finchley.

Johns enlisted on June 23, 1958, and after having been processed by the Depot machine, was posted to the 1st Battalion in Germany. He spent a few months with "B" Company and was then posted to 3-in. Mortar Platoon.

In the sporting field he has excelled, representing the Battalion at boxing and cross-country running. He also enjoys other sports such as cycling, camping, rock climbing and athletic track events (also football pools!).

Always cheerful we find Johns an asset to the Battalion, Company and Platoon. He has not definitely made up his mind, but in all probability he will remain in the Army.

#### Assault Pioneer Section

Once again we arrive at the end of another quarter. Ptes. Moloney and Hardiman attended a Pioneer Course run by Divisional Engineers in January. We congratulate Pte. Moloney on coming top of all the Pioneers in 11 Infantry Brigade Group.

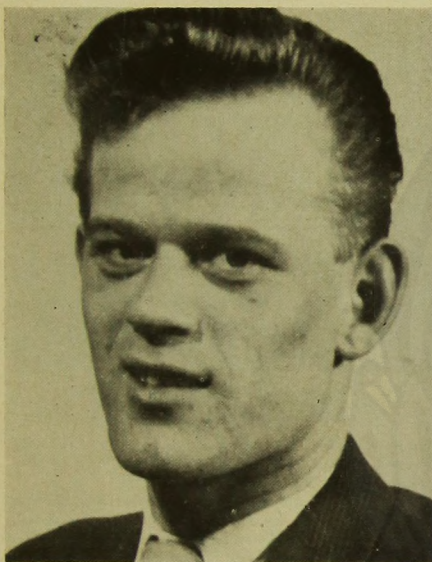
L/Cpl. Bartlett has been doing a great deal of ski-ing at Winterberg and Murnau recently and we congratulate him on being selected and doing so well as an instructor.

Cpl. Beavis is now fully immersed in his motor-cycle and can be found most times working in the cellar.

Pte. Coles has left the stables at long last and is now working with us. Pte. Milburn still has his normal moans but keeps the Section in fits of laughter at times. Pte. Pollard is his customary self! We hear that he is going to sign on for another nine years when he has completed his present engagement. (Enough said.)

With regard to training we had a short exercise with "B" Company. The Section assisted in blowing weapon pits and even protected Company H.Q. at night!

In addition the Pioneers have erected a number of different types of wire fences, dug a demonstration



L/Cpl. Bartlett

four-men nuclear weapon pit, and taken Rifle Companies on assault crossing, booby trap, minefield and demolition training. All told we have been very busy as usual! In fact what's the old refrain?—

"We want them here, we want them there—  
Those faithful old Chunkies are everywhere!"

#### L/Cpl. Bartlett

L/Cpl. Bartlett comes from Enfield and was educated at Suffolk Secondary Modern School. At the age of 15 he became a driver's mate and kept this job until joining his County Regiment as a National Serviceman four years later. After passing out at the Depot he joined the Assault Pioneer Section in Germany in June, 1959, and became a Regular soldier soon afterwards. Proving himself a keen soldier, he received his Lance stripe on May 23, 1960.

Although he is keen on all sports—representing his Company at athletics, hockey, shooting and Rugby football—his best sport is ski-ing. This year was the first time L/Cpl. Bartlett had used skis. He is what you call a natural. But make no mistake, it was his own enthusiasm and hard work which enabled him to become 10th in the B.A.O.R. Downhill Novices Competition. This was a very creditable performance, particularly as only 5 seconds separated the 2nd and 10th man.

#### WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

As invariably happens, the editor of these notes is in some predicament or other at the time of going to press. This time he is on Exercise "April Alert" and writing

these notes from a vantage point in a castle in Hastenbeck. A fairyland setting maybe, but he is not allowing his imagination to run away with him, so here goes with some down-to-earth news of the first quarter of 1961.

Thanks to the enthusiasm of the Mess Committee under the supervision of C.S.M. "Sam" Da Costa, ably assisted by Sgt. Clements and Sgt. Overton, the quarter has been a social success, and hardly a week has gone by that has not seen the committee exercising their wits and ingenuity in keeping the Mess entertained. The "One-Man Band" which we hire frequently is ever popular, and those of you who conjure up visions of a rather comic figure weighed down with cymbals, bells and many other musical aids, doing an eternal jig to produce music, as once seen on the old-time music halls are completely wrong. This German musician is very talented. He plays a number of instruments, which combined with his tape-recorder, his other equipments and vocal accompaniment, provides music to suit all tastes and appropriate to all occasions.

We were privileged indeed on March 28 to have the honour of dining the Colonel of the Regiment at dinner, during his all too brief visit to the Battalion. Unfortunately for the Mess, he was also committed to another engagement the same evening but did re-visit the Mess later in a completely different guise. Memories of Cyprus flashed back to us of that well-known Archbishop and politician, and the reason for the Colonel of the Regiment's early departure was then so obvious.

As a final "handing over of office" fling the committee organised a Grand Draw which took place on April 1—very appropriately, as it transpired! Sgt. Clements in particular is to be commended for his hard work in making it such an outstanding success, and mainly due to his efforts and riotous imagination it really was an April Fools' evening. There were many fine prizes to be won, and in between times the ladies were able to avail themselves of the lucky draw which produced all sorts of oddments from bicycles to rolling-pins (heavy model for erring husbands). C/Sgt. Nicholson won himself a "shortie nightie," but was forced to agree that his figure was most unsuitable for this type of nightwear. It so happened that Mrs. "Vicki" Edwards was celebrating her birthday that day, and the gallant Nick was undaunted in presenting such an intimate garment in honour of the occasion.

Also celebrating were C.S.M. Sid Michel and Olive, on the occasion of their 19th wedding anniversary. Our heartiest congratulations to them both.

During the quarter we said farewell to O.R.Q.M.S. Peter Soper who left to take up an appointment as R.Q.M.S. in Singapore, and in his place we welcome C/Sgt. Cripps from the Brigade Depot at Canterbury. We also welcome Sgt. Horder who now fills the much-desired post of M.I. Sgt., Sgt. Brereton, R.A.P.C., fresh from the R.A.P.C. Training Centre, who has already made his name as a "comedian" with a somewhat unrivalled memory for "short" stories, Sgt. Peacock, R.E.M.E., our new vehicle mechanic who replaces Sgt. Peppercorn, who has left us for H.Q. 11th Infantry Brigade Group, and just in time for these notes, Sgt. "Durzie" Taylor returns after a tour with

the T.A. Finally, we bid farewell to Sgt. Barr, now busy persuading them to join at the Wembley Recruiting Office.

Rumour has it that Sgt. "Fanny" Gibbs will definitely tie the knot shortly after many false starts in the matrimonial field. We wish him and his prospective bride the very best of good fortune for the future.

Shortly we are off to Sennelager once more for our annual outing, this time, though, with a difference, as we shall be celebrating Albuhera Day there.

#### CORPORALS' CLUB

Once again three months have passed, and are best remembered by your scribe for the way in which he has had to run the gauntlet, set up by one Cpl. Barnes, as a result of the last notes, but such is the price of plain speaking. On the whole it has been a quiet period for the Club. We had a visit from a strong party of the Junior N.C.O.s of S.W.B.s, when an enjoyable night was had by all, and we were honoured to welcome for an all-too-short visit, the Commander of 1st (B.R.) Corps, Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles Jones, who spoke to a large number of the members present, including Cpl. (General) Stopp. Also present during the visit were the Commanding Officer and Adjutant, and we are glad to say that they too enjoyed a little refreshment.

At one of our informal dances we were very surprised to find that a certain well-known Warrant Officer was playing Cupid, much to the surprise of "Charlie," and, might we add, to the amusement of all present.

We must also welcome to the Club, L/Cpl. Simson, R.E.M.E., and hope that he manages to make the Brigade of Guards—he should do, with that mop! Cpl. O'Rawe has returned from a lengthy stay in the U.K.; dare we warn Junior to ensure that the cold milk be on parade should Frank get a C.O.S.? And while on the subject of duty, is it true that L/Cpl. Young, G.S.M., C.O.S., has at last performed a duty? Cpl. Mullender has drifted away for a while; we expect it is to recover from the hash over last quarter's notes. Band N.C.O.s, we hear, are now attending Sick Parades; all due, we believe, to shock, resulting from duties whilst the Battalion were away on exercise, plus, of course, the added strain of the morning muster parades.

As a note to C.S.M. Dodkins, we should like to point out that in the event of any trouble with the telephone service, he would be advised to contact L/Cpl. Flynn, whom we now understand to have inside contacts. Also as a note, we would like to ask Cpl. Stewart, if handing/taking over Certs. were prepared for a certain bag, when Cpl. Rockall took over for a few weeks?

Cpl. Kirkpatrick is reported to have taken to the floor at a recent dance. We hope that the poor lady concerned was given a timely warning of the fate that befell her. Poor girl! But his actions of haste were most likely prompted by all those pints of Coca-Cola he was seen drinking when in the company of Cpl. ("Always Sober") Minett, and "Old Kirk" also managed to survive the cigar presented to him by "Ernie" on one of his rare visits to the Club. We have also heard a lot of croaks around late. This we have put down to the return of Cpl. Meacock to the fold, and we are also prompted to point out what excellent

pay a Junior N.C.O. receives these days, at least if one is to judge from the extent of L/Cpl. Mitchell's wardrobe. Our contratulations to Cpl. Burford and L/Cpl. Kelly, R.A.O.C., for their splendid performance in attending a recent scheme. Pity "Old Alfie" had to meet all those very friendly enemies, but we are told that L/Cpl. Rhamatullah has presented him with a D.S.O. and M.C. Cpl. Shaffner had to delay his leave for a while, due to the non-arrival of his B.F.G. papers. We understand that it took at least a week to warn the other road-users that Tony was loose again. May we also take the opportunity to thank Cpl. Simpson, L/Cpls. Anderson and Challoner for a wonderful buffet with excellent music. We hope that we will have many more such evenings in the future.

Welcome to Cpl. Redrupp, indeed no stranger to us, and we will remind Cpl. Beavis not to get his axes round the wrong way as in the past. L/Cpl. O'Reordan, we believe, copped a C.O.S. and something else as well? Never mind, these duties can take a lot out of any man.

Cpl. Sharpe, "The Father of the House," never fails to drop in at lunch time for a chat on the latest news and we mean late. "Still better late than never" they say. We hope that L/Cpl. Prior has recovered from the attack of pre-exercise measles just got, or should be say caught, in time. Cpl. Shave still manages to keep out of these notes. We can never seem to pin it on him, and we never knew that Cpl. Dickens had a bit of Scottish in him until he sprouted that Regimental tie. Must have been a rag-and-bone man about, to judge from the look of it!

We also got our new bar put up, thanks to the efforts of L/Cpl. White and Pte. Whitmore, who completed this excellent bit of work in record time.

It only remains now for us to get enough service from the other side, and I remind L/Cpl. White that there are still ten fags in the issue between us; I never know I might get them back after this!

On the social side of things, our weekly tombola sorties are a firm date, with many thanks to the efforts of Cpl. Brumwell, Cpl. Len Fisher, and many others. We also hope to return the S.W.B. visit, and we have been invited to a games evening at the Sergeants' Mess. Cpl. "Beano" Rose has taken over the sports side of things and promptly got measles; we hope that there was no connection.

Cpl. Simson, A.C.C., still manages to wear a tie knot as large as the lumps in porridge. And here I think we should record a recent conversation overheard in the Club between the P.M.C. and L/Cpl. King. L/Cpl. King: "I did not get a mention in the last notes." P.M.C.: "You never seem to do anything to warrant it." L/Cpl. King: "Never mind, after April I will be free to give you plenty." We wonder what was meant by all that.

Cpl. Knowles, A.C.C., acquitted himself well as a relief barman one evening; it must be due to his experience at the "Boot," as did Cpl. Bustin—where he got his experience from, however, we are at a loss to say.

We are sorry to report that once again L/Cpl. Young was ditchbound, and Cpl. Minett as a result got yet another beer for the recovery. Friend Blanco returned to us from leave with some spicy tales to tell of a

Humber car. Once he remembers not to try it with an Austin 1-ton, we don't mind in the least.

So with that behind, and Sennelager and Soltau to the front, I beg to bring these notes to a close.

# SPORTS

The winter is nearly over. As I write these notes a hot sun shines from a clear blue sky. The winter gladiator is thinking about cleaning his boots before putting them away for another summer, while the athletes and cricketers loosen stiff muscles. On the whole the Battalion can look back over the season 1960-61 with some satisfaction. We have not won nor even reached the last rounds of any Army cup competitions, but many men have enjoyed the comradeship and recreation of playing for a team on a muddy pitch.

I wrote in the last edition of our last hopes in Army sport—the hockey team and the cross-country team. Unfortunately neither teams went further, but they put up a very good show, particularly the cross-country runners who had to run under the most appalling conditions of snow, ice and a bitter wind. 2/Lt. Lofting was our only representative player this season, playing for B.A.O.R. against the R.A.F. A special mention must be made of Pte. (Sunbeam) Clarke of "B" Company, who surprised everyone by becoming runner-up in the B.A.O.R. Individual Boxing Championship in the middleweight class. This was a remarkable achievement as he only started his boxing career in the Battalion Novices Competition at the beginning of the season. He won this competition and boxed regularly for the Battalion with great success. It was with a certain amount of doubt that he was entered for the 2nd Divisional Individual Championships, but he soon put our minds at ease by winning easily. He was then nominated to go forward to the B.A.O.R. Championship where he was eventually beaten in the final. A very good effort indeed.

The basketball team have been very active this season under the management of Lt. Julian and Sgt. Young, and have been on the whole successful. They won the Brigade Championship for the second year in succession and went on to the B.A.O.R. Championship at Osnabruck. Here they came up against the "professionals," the Canadians and the 94th Loc Regiment, R.A., and did not reach the semi-finals. The team achieved the results by hard work, enthusiasm and team spirit, and many other Battalion teams would do well to learn a little from them.

The soccer team has been very disappointing this season. This Regiment was well known as having one of the best soccer teams in the Army not so many years ago. Now what is the situation?

It is a struggle to raise and keep going one XI and that, although keen, lacks talent and spirit. The team labours under the difficulty of having their pitch some distance from the barracks, but that does not excuse the complete lack of support given by the Battalion. There is always a vehicle going down to Wouldham. Next season it must be used if the soccer team is to survive.

The minor sports—Judo, weightlifting, fencing, etc.—are still flourishing and an archery club is now being formed. Soon we will have something for everybody.

# RUGBY

2/Lt. D. M. Everard

A very full fixture list since Christmas has unfortunately resulted in far less games than hoped for owing to weather, transport difficulties and our opponents being unable to field teams. However, after a very disappointing start to the season the Battalion XV has improved enormously.

Our first fixture in the New Year was against the German 78 Club from Hannover. This very strong side had previously soundly beaten a weak Battalion side, so our team was strengthened with four players from the garrison. This match was quite one of the best of the season, the Germans being very fast and fit. Bill Crawte led the outsiders with his usual vigour, and if it had not been such a wet day we might well have scored. As it was, it was largely a forward battle. Here Lt. Goring and S.M. Beale played great games and will probably be long remembered by the Germans! Through a bit of bad luck a kick by our full-back, Cpl. Cosgrave, was charged down and our visitors won a good game 3-0. We hope for a return fixture in April.

A most welcome addition to the Battalion Rugby Club has been the opening of a club room. To this all credit must go to S.M. Beale, whose "Ackers Club" is now known in many parts of Germany. After our matches, instead of using the NAAFI, we now have our own club where splendid teas are served accompanied by the usual beers and singing. We have even had female spectators to the club, more of whom we hope for!

One of the final games of the season was the "traditional" Easter fixture against the Royal Leicestershire Regiment. The Battalion team played the best game of the season and a strong Leicesters' side was well beaten 16-3, mainly due to hard tackling and good falling on the ball. L/Cpl. Philp, Sgt. Young, 2/Lt. Everard and Capt. Du V. Lohan scored tries, and W.O.2 Beale kicked five goals.

The end of March saw an Inter-Company XV-a-side League Competition. This was won by "A" Company who were undefeated, "H.Q.2" being runners-up. Although the standard of Rugby was not high, a wealth of new talent was found which will be invaluable in finding next season's Battalion XV's.

The 2nd Division Seven-a-Side Competition was held on April 8 in Minden. Owing to the inter-Company XV-a-sides being postponed and an important Battalion exercise our team had little or no practice. However, a good seven was produced. In the first round we beat H.Q. 2nd Division "A" 5-0, L/Cpl. Davies scoring a good try. In the next round we beat 19th Field Regiment R.A. "B" convincingly 9-0 and the Cameronians 13-3 in the quarter-final, two good tries being scored by our fast winger, L/Cpl. Philp. We probably went too hard in this round and in the semi-finals went down 8-0 to the Leicesters. However, it was very satisfying for everyone to see an untrained team get so far.

# Results

Battalion 1st XV results since January 1, 1961:



1st MIDDLESEX  
v.  
SANDHURST  
April, 1961

Played, 8; won, 5; lost, 3; drawn, 0; points for, 66; points against, 50.

# Colours

The following have been awarded their Battalion Colours for the season 1960-61: Capt. J. S. B. Pollard ("H.Q." Company), Lt. P. V. Cheesman ("H.Q." Company), Lt. G. Goring ("B" Company), 2/Lt. D. M. Everard ("A" Company), Rev. W. R. Crawte ("H.Q." Company), W.O.2 Beale ("A" Company), Cpl. O'Gorman ("H.Q." Company).

# ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

Lt. M. H. Rose

We have just come to the end of a disappointing season from a winning point of view. The stalwarts have, however, enjoyed the sport for its own sake.

We have been handicapped by lack of numbers and training facilities, both of which must improve in the next season.

We lost our last big match against 19th Field Regiment R.A. in the Major Units Competition of 2nd Division, the score being 5-4. The Gunners won mainly by fitness, but we did, as can be seen by the score, manage to give them a fight.

The players and management have changed frequently throughout the season. L/Cpl. Stanborough, Ptes. Gilham and Bruniges being demobbed, we wish them all the best of luck and many good games in civilian life. We welcome L/Cpls. Ashbolt and Phillips, Ptes. Evans and Smith to the side, who played for the Depot, and hope their stay will be a long one. 2/Lt. E. J. Rayner disappeared at a crucial time to Winterberg and then to Murnau and was not seen for many a long month. The team was taken over by Lt. M. H. Rose.

In the next season we must have more fitness, many more players and one manager. The team also appeal for support. Come on, you young soldiers, leave your charpoy and cheer when the next season starts.

We would like to thank all the drivers, referees,

linesmen and "Q" Medlock who in their own way made all the matches possible.

In conclusion, we say come on, you soccer players—Sign on!

# HOCKEY

Lt. G. Bulloch

The Albuhera Shield Hockey Competition was in progress during the time that the notes were last compiled, and "A" Company and "B" Company were fighting for supremacy. "A" Company only won after a very hard struggle. The standard of play was high, and credit goes to all who played. The umpiring was the best feature of the whole competition, however, and many players learnt valuable lessons from this. Our sincere thanks go to those who volunteered for this duty. A word must be said about C/Sgt. Steward, who has umpired the Battalion games for many years, and has always given of his best.

Battalion Hockey got under way and many games were played with an eye to settling the team for the Army Cup matches ahead.

A trip to Deventer, Holland, will be remembered by everyone—not for hockey, but for the very social welcome which was given us. The two games of hockey were played in pouring rain on a grass field. We lost the first game against the older members of Deventer Hockey Club 6-1. Notable in this game was Cpl. Stopp, who played virtually horizontally. For our second game the next day we played the Deventer 1st XI, and surprisingly beat them 3-1, a real battle of mud. One member mumbled as he came off the pitch that he had been cleaner playing rugby.

Games continued at Hameln, and the team was settled to play the second round of the Army Cup Competition against the South Wales Borderers on December 17. Despite Cpl. Torrie getting married the day before, we fielded a strong team, and after a prolonged struggle won 2-1, but it was "touch and go" after Cpl. Torrie had to leave after a leg injury (two weeks confined to bed!), and we were glad when the final whistle went.



Pte. Bassett in action against Sandhurst

Our next clash came on Sunday, February 5, at Minden against the Cameronians. We had already lost to them earlier in the season, and were determined to return the compliment. However, O'Brien could not play, and after a dour struggle the Cameronians got ahead and stayed ahead—eventually winning 3—0 thus ending our chances.

Since then hockey has been confined to friendly fixtures, and as we go to press only one game remains outstanding—the Sandhurst fixture on Tuesday, April 11.

2/Lt. Lofting has ably led the team through the season, and set a very high standard of personal play. He himself was picked for a B.A.O.R. trial, and played in a match against the R.A.F. in December.

Old stalwarts such as Sgt. Leat, Cpl. Torrie and R.S.M. McMillan, regularly played and have contributed much to the success of this season.

Pte. Morgan, a newcomer this season, and now demobbed, combined excellent stickwork with hard hitting, and scored many goals this season—a sad loss.

Pte. O'Brien, Lts. Cowing and Bulloch, Bdsm. Wall-work played throughout the season, and Pte. Bassett has taken Sgt. Handford's place in goal. He has improved tremendously, and we hope he is there to stay. 2/Lt. Rayner, Bdsm. Andrews, Pte. Hill and Sgt. Young played at times, and all contributed in no mean way to the general success of the team.

C.S.M. Da Costa played centre-half whenever 2/Lt. Lofting was away, and did much useful work organising teams.

Sgt. Leat took over running the hockey in 2/Lt. Lofting's absence, and always managed to provide beer after the games, and more drinks in the Officers' Mess bar.

Major Clayden was much missed this season, and we all hope that he will be available next season. The game does not somehow seem the same without some fierce looks and mummings going on, muttering evil curses on either the umpire or players!—(every team has one) and we sorely missed ours.

### SADDLE CLUB

Capt. H. M. du V. Lohan

On February 26 the annual Anglo-German Horse Show was held in the outside school. It was a great success, thanks to Herr Meyer and his associates who organised it, and was well reported in the local press.

The morning was taken up with a dressage competition and the afternoon with jumping. Capt. du V. Lohan, 2/Lt. Finch and Pte. Finnis entered for the junior grade competition consisting of some ten jumps at 3½ feet high. Capt. du V. Lohan won a rather doubtful rosette; he still claims that he came fourth but we later discovered he was in fact fifth. Pte. Finnis also entered for the senior event at the last moment and to the great surprise and pleasure of the local inhabitants he came second. Jumping against the best local riders this was a splendid effort.

If one considers the cost of riding in England and the cost at the Saddle Club it will be appreciated that we are lucky to get riding and instruction so cheaply. We would like to see more soldiers make use of the Saddle Club. You do not need all the kit to ride at our Club; blue jeans and a coloured shirt are quite acceptable.

Why not give it a try?

### BOXING

Lt. R. C. Pitman

In the latter half of the boxing season our activities were concerned with the Individual Command Championships. From the boxers who did well in our team matches we entered Ptes. Clarke (89), Clarke (23) and Boyden in the 2nd Division Individual Championships at middleweight, welterweight and lightweight respectively.

In the first round of the championships Clarke (23) and Boyden met more experienced boxers and lost. In the middleweight division Pte. Clarke's (89) hard hitting and determination won him four contests and the Divisional Championship. He then went on to the B.A.O.R. Championship in Berlin.

As this was Clarke's first season, this achievement in itself is very good. In Berlin he did very well indeed in reaching the final. In the final, however, he met an experienced boxer with a hard punch and even Clarke's determination and strength could not outweigh his opponent's technique and he lost. With the experience of this season behind him, Clarke should have a very good chance of improving his boxing next season and going even further in the Individual Championships.

I think we can look back on the season and be reasonably satisfied at our performances both as a team and individually, but, of course, bearing in mind that next season we must work harder still, so that all those narrow decisions which went against us, go to us. In this way we may do as well, if not better, than in the 1959-60 season when we reached the semi-final of the B.A.O.R. Team Championship and produced an Army champion.

### BASKETBALL

Lt. M. Julian

Sgt. J. Young

With the season nearly ended I think that it can be

safely said that the basketball team has had the most successful time of all the Battalion sports teams.

Up until Christmas the policy was to have as many friendly matches as possible with a view to picking, by the end of December, the team on which to work for the Brigade Championships in February.

Naturally by treating these matches as trials in many cases we suffered a few defeats. But a few new names were added to the Battalion team which was what we hoped for.

After Christmas the team got down to serious training and here I would like to thank Cpl. Cosgrave for his endless help in training and coaching. We arrived at Minden on February 16-17 very much the underdogs, but by 1600 hrs. on February 17 the team had won the championship for the second year in succession. Here are the results, and it can be seen that we did not have an easy passage; we won on goal average:

	Points
v. 24th Regiment, R.A. . . . .	44—43
v. 19th Field Regiment, R.A. . . . .	37—32
v. 1st Cameronians . . . . .	38—40
v. 1st South Wales Borderers . . . . .	36—23

(2 points per win)

The team automatically represented the 11th Brigade Group in the B.A.O.R. Championships at Osnabrueck on February 21-23. Without trying to make excuses I can safely say that luck did not run with us. The championships were run on a pool system: Two pools of five; the top two of each pool qualifying for a place in the semifinals.

We threw away two games after being 16 and 14 points up at half-time. We did not qualify for the finals as a result of this. However, we did put up a very good show.

As a result of our season's performance the team will be visiting Denmark from May 5 to 13, 1961. A report of this will be in the next *Die-hard* Journal.

Interest within the Battalion for basketball is very great. A Platoon ladder has been started and is a great success. We have also played local German teams. Together with the Danish trip, this should ensure the team having interest next season.

The following were awarded Battalion Colours for basketball and I would like to thank them for their work and many off-duty hours put into the team practice: Sgts. Scott and Young, Cpls. Torrie and Cosgrave (captain), L/Cpl. Peak, and Ptes. Meehan, O'Brien, French, Harris and Crook.

### BADMINTON

Capt. S. E. O. Jones

The Battalion has at present quite a good Badminton team.

There are no outstanding players, but there is a nucleus of good players, e.g. S.S.I. Poole, A.P.T.C., Cpl. Cosgrave ("A" Company), L/Cpl. Trudgill ("H.Q." Company), and Pte. O'Brien ("H.Q." Company), with four or five moderate players to make up teams and act as reserves.

Unfortunately, however, we are suffering from lack of opposition. The only other local teams are the 1st S.W.B. and 43rd Field Pk. Squadron. The former

we have played against twice and the latter we hope to play in the near future.

Results:

1st S.W.B. (away) . . . . .	Drawn	9—9
1st S.W.B. (home) . . . . .	Won	5—4

### MODERN PENTATHLON

Capt. H. M. du V. Lohan

Training continued for the B.A.O.R. Modern Pentathlon Championships. Since the last notes the team has attended a fencing course, entered for the B.A.O.R. Epee Championships, ridden in a local horse show and continues to swim, run and shoot with great verve.

We have met our great rivals the 10th Hussars at Paderborn and hope to have them to stay with us before the competition in June.

It is going to be a tough competition this year but the team hopes to justify the time and money which have been given them in order to produce the best Regimental team to date.

### FENCING

Capt. H. M. du V. Lohan

In our last notes it was mentioned that a fencing club room had been made in the gymnasium. This is now fully operational. There are many people in the Battalion who would like to fence, either as beginners or to carry on where they last left off. The trouble is that fencing kit is very expensive. However, if you are keen enough to invest a little of your own money, we can obtain the equipment.

The Club only operates for epee fencers at the moment but we welcome Capt. R. D. Fisher back to the Battalion and hope that he, as an experienced fencer with the foil, will lend us his talents.

The Battalion entered three individuals in the B.A.O.R. Epee Championships, Capt. H. M. du V. Lohan, Pte. Finnis and Pte. Seatory. We congratulate Pte. Finnis on coming third in B.A.O.R. epee; some bad luck prevented him from winning outright. He will be going back to U.K. for the next phase of the Army Epee Championships which is at the Royal Tournament. We wish him all the best.

### 22 SHOOTING NOTES

The miniature range in Gordon Barracks has taken a severe hammering during the cold winter months, while each evening Company teams fought out the Minor Units Small-Bore Championship for which 18 teams were entered. "A" and "B" Companies did very well to finish 4th and 6th respectively. This competition laid the foundation on which the Battalion team was built. It produced many young soldiers who were good shots and who helped the Battalion team win Stage 1 of the Rhine Army Small-Bore Championship and later to win the competition outright.

The position at the end of Stage 1 was as follows:

Team	Leg 1	Leg 2	Leg 3	Leg 4	Total
1 Mx. . . . .	1489	1497	1499	1498	5983
1 S.W.B. . . . .	1458	1450	1454	1460	5822
2 Div. R.A.S.C. . . . .	1417	1430	1479	1486	5812
14/20 H. . . . .	1413	1412	1440	1436	5701
1 Cameronians . . . . .	1369	1375	1395	1456	5595

In this five of the eight best individuals were Middlesex men.

Stage 2 of the competition was run as a knock-out competition centrally at A.A.T.C. Sennelager and was a severe test of nerves. Fortunately, a member of the team we feared the most cracked under the strain and appeared on the range having taken too much "Dutch courage." This enabled us to beat the Royal Highlanders of Canada with little trouble in the semi-finals. In the finals we managed to out-shoot 7th Signal Regiment and so win the Rhine Army Small-Bore Championship. The young team did extremely well, and although the averages dropped towards the end they managed to pull something out of the bag in the finals. C.S.M. Da Costa deserves great praise for the considerable amount of work he put into coaching and training the team and shooting very steadily himself.

Details of Stage 2. Semi-finals and final:

1 R.H.C. 1462	1 Mx. 1485
1 Mx. 1473	
1 R.U.R. 1447	7 Sig. Regt. 1478
7 Sig. Regt. 1504	

When the trophy was presented by Maj.-Gen. Gordon, Commanding 4th Division, he said he was delighted that the team had not relied on the "old sweats" in Rifle Companies, but had drawn upon the whole Battalion.

On return to Hameln a celebration was held in "C" Company Club, when the Commanding Officer filled the hard-won cup with the most expensive drink that could be found in the Sergeants' Mess.

## Depot Notes

Although the last issue of the Journal contained the report of the closure of the Depot, there are one or two items to report from the Rear Details who have at last succeeded in winding up its affairs.

First it will be of interest to a long line of ex-Quartermasters of the Depot to know that the Regiment has marched out of Inglis Barracks without having to pay a penny in barrack damage charges except in the Officers' Mess, where there was a small charge for crockery and cutlery, most of which had been stored in the cellars since the end of the last war. This is surely a tribute to a long history of first-class "Q" administration, and particularly to Capt. Sam Weller who has borne the brunt of winding up Depot affairs on that side of the house.

Next, all members of the Regiment will be glad to know that the Home Postal Depot will continue to care for our Memorial. At the time of writing it looks as beautiful as ever it did. The seats have been restored to their rightful place around the monolith, and the surrounding grass and garden are in excellent condition after the early spring weather. The Commanding Officer of the Home Postal Depot, Lt.-Col. R. Turner, M.B.E., has also agreed that the Regiment

The successful team was: C.S.M. Da Costa ("D" Company), L/Cpl. Adkin ("H.Q." Band), Sgt. Davis ("A" Company), Pte. Grenfell ("S" Company), Sgt. Partridge ("S" Company). Reserves: Cpl. Lynch ("A" Company), Cpl. Dickens ("C" Company), Cpl. Whittle ("A" Company), Cpl. Hart ("H.Q." Company, Drums), Pte. Finnis ("B" Company), Cpl. Rockall ("A" Company).

While all this has been going on at Battalion level there has been a monthly competition going throughout the winter months between platoons. This has been quite successful, but some of the "H.Q." Company platoons found great difficulty in getting together a team and, in fact, some did not fire every month. This was a pity because some of them started well, particularly the Signal Platoon, and had they continued might have won the competition.

### Final Results of Inter-Platoon Competition

MONTHLY SCORES						
Pos.	Platoon	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
1	No. 6 Pl. ("B")	515	514	513	525	544
2	Mortar Pl.	501	513	523	515	504
3	No. 2 Pl. ("A")	498	530	512	510	402
4	No. 4 Pl. ("B")	488	476	527	511	511
5	No. 8 Pl. ("C")	430	501	527	488	519
6	No. 3 Pl. ("A")	401	462	501	472	517
7	No. 1 Pl. ("A")	484	512	474	493	510
8	No. 5 Pl. ("B")	484	460	426	474	530
9	No. 9 Pl. ("C")	386	433	402	505	406
10	A/Tk. Pl.	332	401	480	460	430
11	Regimental Band	443	380	406	474	NF
12	Drums	411	438	479	408	NF
13	No. 7 Pl. ("C")	417	433	453	376	NF
14	Sig. Pl.	510	454	438	NF	NF
15	Regimental Police	332	344	NF	400	NF
16	M.T. Pl.	357	442	340	NF	NF
17	Q.M. Pl.	453	NF	NF	NF	NF

can continue to hold the annual Remembrance Service around the Memorial, and the Colonel of the Regiment is anxious that this should be widely known and the service well supported in the years to come.

The Seringapatam Gun, which has stood on the square for so many years and has formed a backcloth to all passing-out parades, has been moved to Canterbury, where it will occupy a similar place on the square of the Home Counties Brigade Depot.

In due course it is the intention to have a wall plaque in the barracks to commemorate the Regiment's occupation of the barracks, but this will not be done until the rebuilding programme has reached a stage where we can be certain that any plaque which is put up will not be dismantled or damaged during the rebuilding.

Col. Maurice Browne will continue to occupy his office in the old orderly room block and he would be delighted to receive a visit from any "Die-Hard" who is in the area.

This then concludes the last notes which will appear in the Journal under the Depot heading. It is sad indeed to think that the demise of the Depot should take place in its 57th year in the Mill Hill Barracks.

## 5th Battalion T.A.

On April 1st 1961, 5th Battalion the Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) T.A. was formed.

### THEY'RE OFF!

In fact we were off to a very good start, for by the time April 1 had arrived the Commanding Officer had already held a study week-end for officers at Edgware, and most of the Battalion had completed its classification course on the ranges.

The 5th Battalion has now joined the newly formed 56th (London) Brigade under Brigadier J. F. C. Mellor, D.S.O., O.B.E., in company with the Queen's Royal Rifles, 1st Battalion London Scottish, 1st Battalion London Irish Rifles, 1st Battalion London Rifle Brigade Rangers; 56th (London) Brigade itself forms part of 54th (East Anglian) Division.

The Territorial Army has changed!! Was there ever a time in history when the T.A. Battalion was more up to date than its regular counterpart? Well, this is the case today! Not in all respects, it must be admitted, for we are still struggling with the 17-pounder anti-tank gun, still caressing the Vickers machine-gun towards its second "half century." We don't have Korean-style combat kit, and only a few hard-won pairs of "boots cold-wet weather" creep about, carefully nurtured and guarded against envious feet. But at least we don't have a Support Company, nor a Headquarters Group 1 and 2, for we have already adopted the "774 formation." In this formation the mortars and anti-tank guns are distributed to Rifle Companies, each company having its Support Platoon of two anti-tank guns and four mortars (3-inch, of course). Our Vickers machine-guns are looked after by the reece platoon in "H.Q." Company, where the assault pioneers are also to be found.

This new formation caused a problem for our first study week-end on March 2 and 3, because at the time no manual had been published for guidance. However, Major O. W. A. Kite, at the School of Infantry, Warminster, very kindly came to our aid with the draft which he had submitted to War Office and so enabled us to "beat the pistol."

The Battalion area is very widely spread over Middlesex and, roughly speaking, the areas of the old 7th and 8th Battalion have been joined in the middle by the 9th Battalion area. The Battalion layout is as follows:

- T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, **Edgware**. (Tel.: EDGWARE 5236)—Battalion Headquarters, "H.Q." Company, two platoons of "B" Company, 1 platoon of "C" Company.
- T.A. Centre, Priory Road, **Hornsey** (Tel.: MOUNTVIEW 7651)—"A" Company.
- T.A. Centre, Old Park Avenue, **Enfield** (Tel.: ENFIELD 0710)—"C" Company Headquarters and three platoons.
- T.A. Centre, Churchfield Road, **Ealing** (Tel.: EALING 2202)—"B" Company Headquarters and two platoons.



THEY'RE OFF

- T.A. Centre, Hanworth Road, **Hounslow** (Tel.: HOUNSLOW 5426)—"D" Company, less one platoon.
- T.A. Centre, High Street, **Hampton** (Tel.: MOSELEY 1899)—One platoon of "D" Company.

In the field of sport, the Battalion has made a fine start. Our cross-country team won the East Anglian Division trophy, all our nine runners completing the course in very good time, considering the very short notice at which the team was formed. On this occasion we were represented by Ptes. Buss, Billingham, Hart, Loomes, A. Ratcliffe, D. Rideout, Sherwin, and Lt. J. C. Parkinson. Next year we hope to wrest the Command trophy from 10th Battalion Parachute Regiment.

Taking over from the 8th Battalion, who had reached the quarter-finals of the T.A. Cup, we had a long trip to Durham for the quarter-final, and were overwhelmed by a super-fit Durham Light Infantry side (which eventually went on to win the cup) by 8-0!! The Durham miners had much more power and cruised through the angle-deep mud to give us a sound pasting. However, if we meet them on dry ground next season, it will be a very different story. We reached the final of the Eastern Command Cup and narrowly lost by 2-1 to 5th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment. This was a very closely-fought game under good conditions, and was a fitting climax to the season.

Paint is being splashed around the Edgware Drill Hall at an alarming rate. So for the next few weeks there will be a sticky welcome for those who visit us;



Capt. Hogg receiving the Champion Company Trophy from Mrs. Baker



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY BRIEFING

but after renovation the home of the 5th Battalion will provide a very warm welcome for all "Die-Hards." We are very anxious to draw together all members of our famous Regiment, both active and passive.

#### TRAINING NOTES

On April 8 and 9 the Battalion Rifle Meeting was held at Ash Ranges. This was the first major event organised by the Battalion.

For the first time in the post-war period of the old 7th and 8th Battalions no outside assistance was provided. The butt-markers were provided by the rifle companies, an unpopular task at the best of times. Under Capt. Malcolm Gilham's supervision they were quite splendid and, very largely due to their efforts, we finished an hour early on the Sunday.

"D" Company deservedly won all the events but one. The detailed results are shown later.

Mrs. Baker very kindly presented prizes at the end of the meeting.

#### Battalion Rifle Meeting, 1961—Results

Match 1	Rifle	Winners	"D" Company
		Runners-up	"H.Q." Company
Match 2	L.M.G. Pairs	Winners	"H.Q." Company
		Runners-up	"D" Company
Match 3	Rifle	Winners	"D" Company
		Runners-up	"A" Company
Match 4	China Cup	Winners	"D" Company
		Runners-up	"H.Q." Company

Battalion Shooting Cup: "D" Company.

Best L.M.G. Pair: 2/Lt. S.L.J. Henshaw and Pte. A. F. Donald, "B" Company.

Best Officer Shot: Lt. J. M. Robertson, "A" Company.

Best O.R. Shot: Pte. A. F. Donald, "B" Company.

Best Sergeants' Shot: Sgt. G. Young, "D" Company.

Best P.S.I. Shot: W.O.2 W. J. Wright, "D" Company.

On April 15 the Commanding Officer, Training Officer, Adjutant and I.O. spent the day at Stanford P.T.A., inspecting the hutted camp and training areas for annual camp. If the weather remains fine during the Battalion visit in late May and early June we shall all enjoy ourselves—we most probably will, even if it does not.

During the same week-end all the Support Platoons, less the Anti-tank Sections, fired their weapons at Lydd. Major Peter Hall ("D" Company) commanded this Support group. The Reece Platoon (M.M.Gs.), whose members are ex-571 L.A.A. Regiment, thoroughly enjoyed themselves firing, to them, this most unfamiliar weapon. They are, or should be, training hard for the Home Counties Brigade Competition which will be held in July.

At the end of April the Battalion entered a team for the 54th (E.A.) Division/District Rifle Meeting. Pte. A. F. Donald ("B" Company) did extremely well to win a runners-up medal in the Young Soldiers' Competition. Through misfortune and other reasons, the rest of the team did not do so well. Next year will be different. The Training Officer spent four days in the butts and his comments at the end of each day's firing left no doubt in anyone's mind of his feelings on this meeting.

In May "D" Company spend a week-end on the Hangmoor field-firing ranges, whilst "A" and "C" Companies carry out platoon exercises in local training areas.

Major J. D. Gunnell ("C" Company) will again be President of an A.C.F. Certificate, "A" Board. He is now well known by all those in "G" Branch, H.Q. London District, and is in danger of becoming permanent President. However, his standards are high and he refuses to pass but the very best.

#### ROLL OF OFFICERS AT PRESENT SERVING WITH THE BATTALION

(HONORARY COLONEL, BRIGADIER E. E. F. BAKER, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P.)

Lt.-Col. I. D. Brotherton	Lt. J. V. Rawson
Major D. L. James, T.D.	Lt. J. S. Richards
Major P. J. Hall	Lt. P. J. Ottino
Major J. D. Gunnell	Lt. K. D. Murray
Major C. W. Davies	Lt. D. O. M. Thomas
Major P. Davidson	Lt. J. M. Robertson
Major R. J. Leighton, T.D.	Lt. D. B. Powell
	Lt. J. A. Van de Pol
	Lt. J. C. Parkinson
	Lt. M. J. S. Doran
	Lt. R. G. Tett

Capt. B. K. Clayden\*  
Capt. M. C. D. L. Gilham\*  
Capt. (Q.M.) S. C. W. Weller, M.M.\*

Capt. B. A. Skinner  
Capt. J. K. E. Slack  
Capt. B. B. Pollecoff  
Capt. D. E. Lobb  
Capt. M. J. Beaumont  
Capt. D. W. Hogg  
Capt. H. E. Couch  
Capt. S. le M. Enthoven

Lt. K. G. Price  
Lt. S. L. J. Henshaw  
Lt. D. H. S. Herriott  
Lt. A. N. Hunt

#### ATTACHED

Major D. P. Winstanley, R.A.M.C.  
Capt. J. C. Worswick, R.A.M.C.  
Capt. B. A. Hennah, R.A.P.C.  
Capt. (Rev.) S. P. H. Stubbs, R.A.Ch.D.

\* Regular

#### ROLL OF W.O.s, COLOUR-SERGEANTS AND SERGEANTS AT PRESENT SERVING WITH THE BATTALION

W.O.1 F. Webb*	Sgt. E. R. Oakley
W.O.2 Wright*	Sgt. M. O'Brart
W.O.2 Moyse*	Sgt. A. J. Willis*
W.O.2 R. G. Vaisey	Sgt. R. Robson
W.O.2 I. F. Roberts	Sgt. L. Hawkins, B.E.M.
W.O.2 H. W. Rea	Sgt. K. Mortimer
W.O.2 J. Duff	Sgt. B. Stack
W.O.2 G. Hills	Sgt. J. Elderfield
W.O.2 W. Payne	Sgt. D. W. Guiver
	Sgt. E. James
	Sgt. T. D. Jones
C/Sgt. A. E. Howe, M.B.E.	Sgt. A. C. Addy*
C/Sgt. F. Leaves	Sgt. L. R. Salter
C/Sgt. D. Jackson	Sgt. D. F. Gainsbury
C/Sgt. G. Carnie	Sgt. C. B. Wagner
C/Sgt. C. G. Hall	Sgt. F. W. Hawes
	Sgt. L. Harris
	Sgt. L. Ford
Sgt. H. E. Oliver	Sgt. N. Wallace
Sgt. H. W. Shoebridge	Sgt. D. McKerron
Sgt. C. Holdford	Sgt. G. C. Berry
Sgt. D. Gibbons	Sgt. A. R. Kemp
Sgt. D. Godleman	Sgt. L. F. Wood
Sgt. G. Stansell	

Sgt. D. Lloyd  
Sgt. G. R. Brown  
Sgt. P. M. Turner\*  
Sgt. R. J. Bartholomew

ATTACHED

Sgt. A. Johnson, A.P.T.C.

Sgt. K. N. Robson,  
R.A.P.C.  
Sgt. G. Berry, R.A.P.C.  
Sgt. M. Moore, A.C.C.  
Sgt. E. Pincombe,  
R.E.M.E.

\* Regular

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

Commanding Officer .. Lt.-Col. D. E. Simpson, T.D.  
Adjutant .. Capt. B. K. Clayden  
Q.M. .. Lt. (Q.M.) E. J. Pike  
R.S.M. .. W.O.1 J. A. Thom  
R.Q.M.S. .. W.O.2 N. J. Howes  
O.R.Q.M.S. .. W.O.2 C. J. Munds



At the time of writing these notes, the Battalion has only a strength of ten officers and six W.O.s and N.C.O.s. All the other members have either been posted to the new 5th Battalion, to other units, or have been discharged. To those who have left we wish good luck, whether as Territorials or whole-time civilians, and say "thank you" for their services to the Battalion and the Regiment. Everything has been said in the last issue about the reorganisation, and we know that our spirit and traditions will live long in the new 5th Battalion, and will help to make it the finest T.A. Battalion in the whole country—our best wishes to Lt.-Col. I. D. Brotherton and his merry men.

However, despite the pangs of reorganisation, the 7th has not been altogether inactive. In competitions the Hornsey .22 Rifle Team reached the final of the Middlesex Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association Winter League. They met a team from 452 H.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), in a close-fought match at the Willesden T.A. Centre on March 23. The two scores put up were near records, and were certainly the highest ever for the final in this competition.

452 H.A.A. Regiment scored 577 points (H.P.S. 600) for their best six, having a 90 and 88 counted out. Their three top individuals scored 97, 98 and 99 respectively. They deserved to win.

The Hornsey Centre team consisted of:

	Score
Lt.-Col. D. E. Simpson, T.D.	95
Lt. J. C. J. Grobel	96
Lt. J. M. Robertson	95
Lt. J. A. Van de Pol	94
Cpl. J. Huth	96
Pte. K. Buss	94
Lt. (Q.M.) E. J. Pike	91
Sgt. B. Stack	90



Winners of the 54th Division Cross-country Cup

Giving the Battalion a score of 570 for their best six. A fine achievement by both teams using the No. 8 rifle as issued, firing on N.S.R.A. 5-bull cards. It is an interesting thought that out of the 16 firers only seven are able to continue in the reorganised T.A. Due to sickness and civilian jobs (they do sometimes have to take priority) we were not able to produce a full cross-country team for the Eastern Command Championships. However, under the rules we were able to form a combined team with the 8th and had the distinction of winning the 54th (E.A.) Infantry Division (T.A.) Cup—the first of many engravings of the Middlesex Regiment on this cup—we hope!

Pte. K. Buss won the 54th Division Individual Cham-



Pte K. Buss, 7th Bn, receiving the Cup and Medal as Individual Champion, 54 (E.A.) Division Cross Country Competition, Richmond Park, February 19th, 1961.



Photo: Hornsey Journal

### Mayor of Hornsey's Civic Dinner

Sgt. Stansall, Capt. Williams (A.C.E.), Col. W. E. Pringle, M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., Hon. Col. 7MX  
Brig. J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E., Col. of the Regt., Lt.Col. D. E. Simpson, C.O. 7MX

pionship Cup and a photo of the presentation appears with this article.

We might say that Command still had the Battalions down as being in the 44th Division and it took some smart reorganisation by Cols. Simpson and Brotherton to have us entered as from our new Division.

This point would be a suitable time to record our change of command from the 44th (Home Counties) Infantry Division to the 54th (East Anglian) Infantry Division and 56th (London) Infantry Brigade, which took place on February 1, 1961. A short stay will be ours but we have left our name graven on one "heart." The final farewell parties have been taking place during the last months.

The Officers' Mess held their farewell dinner at Hornsey on February 11; 25 officers were present and it could be said that there was no suspicion of a "wake." At one time, the Band, augmented by numerous part-time volunteers of commissioned ranks with a variety of old, worn-out or obsolescent instruments, was being conducted by three separate conductors—the Honorary Colonel, the C.O. and the Q.M.—simultaneously. We might say that the tune was still recognisable—the ubiquitous "Colonel Bogey." The subalterns took their share in leading the entertainment after and the Battalion red carpet was put to its usual use at the end.

On February 18 the officers gave a small cocktail party to entertain those great supporters of the T.A., their wives, fiancées and girl friends. A fitting, if small, return to the ladies for their great forbearance to the demands of an active T.A. Unit.

The Permanent Staff, depleted but still kicking, held their farewell one Friday midday towards the end of the month of March. Extraordinary to admit, but the food consumed cost more than the drink; was the absence of the R.S.M. in hospital responsible?

The Adjutant, with another of the P.S., was to be seen at 1600 hrs. that afternoon working it off at a game of squash in the Drill Hall. A small representative party was present at the 7th Middlesex (1914-18) Old Comrades' Reunion at Beale's Restaurant on March 24, to escort the silver and to give support to the C.O. reporting on the activities of the Battalion after dinner.

Some of the Battalion were privileged to be present at the Mayor of Hornsey's Civic Dinner and to hear the Colonel of the Regiment respond to the toast of "The Guests."

As these are the last notes to appear in *The Die-Hards* under the title of the 7th, the opportunity is taken to pay a tribute to all the Regular and Civilian Permanent Staffs who have served with the Unit; to their constant

hard work and great enthusiasm and devotion to duty the Battalion owes a great debt of gratitude over the years. It is not easy to be asked to give so many evenings and weekends to their task, but they have always done it willingly and with great spirit.

"7th BATTALION MESSAGE ENDS—OVER TO YOU—OUT."

### THE HONG KONG REGIMENT

The most outstanding event in an eventful quarter was the announcement by H.E. The Governor that after ten years of conscription compulsory service was to end in Hong Kong very shortly. Whilst compulsory service has never been popular, its end is nevertheless a challenge to all ranks of the Regiment to maintain our numbers by voluntary recruitment. The older members of our affiliated Regiment will appreciate how very much we welcome the return of our right to call ourselves the Volunteers, since it was by this title that we were known when we fought beside the "Die-Hards" in the battle for Hong Kong.

Another link with the past is about to be severed by the retirement of our Honorary Colonel in May of this year. Col. Harry Owen Hughes is well known to all members of the Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) who served in Hong Kong, since he is not only a pre-war Volunteer but also the Commanding Officer of the Regiment after the war who did so much to obtain permission for our present affiliation. His kindness to young officers of both Regiments will long be remembered.

At a simple ceremony held at Regimental Headquarters on Wednesday, March 22, Dr. the Hon. Sir Sik-nin Chau, Kt., C.B.E., on behalf of all donors, presented seven silver bugles and five state fanfare trumpets to the Corps of Drums. Col. Owen Hughes received the instruments on behalf of the Regiment and subsequently presented a sword, scabbard, belt and sling to the Drum Major. In his concluding remarks he reminded us that no soldier was of any value unless he was imbued with the volunteer spirit. He also paid tribute to the many happy hours he had himself enjoyed as a member of the Volunteers since 1924.

The reorganisation of the Regiment is now almost complete and we are at present able to put two Reconnaissance Squadrons in the field as well as No. 3 Company, the Home Guard, Support Company, Regimental Headquarters and the Intelligence Platoon. Despite this change the Regiment was able to retain the lead in the Hong Kong Bisley against all the Regular Army teams. The final result in the team championship was Home Guard Company first, Regimental team "A" third, and Regimental team "B" fourth.

Also during the quarter the Regimental hockey team won the Land Forces Knock-Out League for the first time. The seven-a-side Rugby team was not so lucky and was knocked out by the winners, 1st Battalion The Royal Warwickshire Regiment, in the second round.

At the time of writing the annual review is to be held tomorrow and the state fanfare trumpets will be

played in public for the first time. For the first time this year the parade will be held in the evening and will be based on the ceremony of Beating Retreat by the Band and Corps of Drums. Among the medal recipients will be R.S.M. R. A. Budden, who will receive the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from His Excellency the Governor.

It is fitting that we should take this opportunity to say farewell to R.S.M. and Mrs. Budden who are leaving after three years' service with us and to thank them both for the contribution they have made to the life of the Regiment. We shall particularly remember the R.S.M. for his interest in shooting and his ability in organising the ceremonial parades which have, during his tour, increased in number and gained so much credit for the Regiment.

We wish both R.S.M. and Mrs. Budden the best of luck in their new posting to the 4th/5th R.W.K. and look forward to welcoming back R.S.M. and Mrs. Robertson (A. & S.H.) on March 29.



The cap badge found by the boys.

### BATTLE OF HONG KONG RELIC FOUND

From the "China Mail" of February 28, 1961.

A Middlesex Regiment cap badge, probably worn by one of Hong Kong's defenders during the Japanese invasion, was found on Sunday afternoon in Turtle Cove.

The Cove is between Repulse Bay and Stanley, both scenes of the heavy fighting which preceded the Japanese Occupation from 1941 to 1945.

Two boys, David Aylward and Tony Doggett, found a slit trench near to a pillbox and shortly afterwards David picked up the badge.

It is noticeably weathered but still clearly shows the Regiment title and "Albuhera," scene of another battle famed in the Regiment's annals.

### THE WELLINGTON WEST COAST AND TARANAKI REGIMENT

#### Organisation

The New Zealand Territorial Army is at present organised on an entirely voluntary basis. The Infantry Regiments are raised from traditional areas as is the case in the United Kingdom. Each Battalion has a Regular Army staff of an Adjutant, R.S.M., R.Q.M.S., Chief Clerk and a Sergeant/W.O. at each sub-unit.

The 1st Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment has its headquarters located in Wanganui and the Companies are found at nodal points in the northern portion of Wellington Province and in the Taranaki Province. These Companies are as distant from Battalion H.Q. as 100 or more miles.

Training is carried out by night and weekend parades, courses for officers, N.C.O.s and specialists at Army schools, and two weeks' annual camp.

#### Highlights of 1960-61

**Annual Camp.**—Held during January in Linton Military Camp. A most successful period of training climaxed by a Brigade exercise in conjunction with the 1st Battalion Wellington Regiment (T.F.). The emphasis this year being operations against insurgents under S.E. Asian conditions. The training was conducted with enthusiasm and efficiency by all ranks and the use of the S.L.R. added interest for the rifleman.

**Freedom of Cities.**—On February 28, 1960, the City of New Plymouth granted the Freedom of the City to the Regiment, and on February 24, 1961, a similar ceremony was held in the City of Wanganui. Both parades were a credit to the Regiment and all ranks proved themselves as capable on ceremonial duty as they are in the field.

**Competitions.**—The Regimental Pipes and Drums won the New Zealand National "B" Grade Championship for 1960 and has since been upgraded. The M.M.G. Platoon entered a team in the Combined Services Small Arms Meeting in February, 1961, and won the M.G. Championship.

### AN ABRIDGED HISTORY OF THE WELLINGTON WEST COAST AND TARANAKI REGIMENT

The Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment is formed from the amalgamation of The Wellington West Coast Regiment and The Taranaki Regiment. Both Regiments trace their history to the early colonial days when Militia Companies and Volunteer Corps were raised to fight in the Maori Wars.

#### THE WELLINGTON WEST COAST REGIMENT

The foundation unit of The Wellington West Coast Regiment was formed on July 4, 1860, under the name of The Wanganui Rifle Volunteers. This unit did not see any action and was disbanded, but was soon reformed as The Victoria Rifles. Together with such other West Coast units as The Prince of Wales Rifles, The Caledonian Rifles and The Wanganui Bushranger Volunteers this unit fought against the Maoris at Wereroa Pa in 1865.

In 1868 The Wanganui Rifle Volunteer Corps was formed and played an outstanding part in the garrison of the Wereroa Redoubt when it was attacked by the

Hau Haus in the same year. In 1881 The Wanganui Rifles, The Wanganui City Rifles and The Royal Rangitikei Rifles all took part in the quelling of the Maori rising at Parihaka.

From these volunteer corps The Wellington West Coast Rifle Volunteer Battalion was formed in 1898 and since many of its members served in the South African War the Battalion was awarded the battle honour "South Africa." This Battalion was disbanded in 1911 and The Wellington West Coast Infantry Regiment was formed.

In the First World War, conforming with Government policy, the unit did not fight as a Regiment but as a Company within the Infantry Battalion raised in the Wellington Military District. The unit performed creditably throughout the war, suffering a total of 2,193 fatal casualties. Lt. L. Andrew was awarded the Victoria Cross in 1916.

For its part in this war the Regiment bears the following battle honours on Colours:

Somme .. .. .	1916-18
Ypres .. .. .	1917
Hindenburg Line	
Landing at Anzac ..	
Egypt .. .. .	1915-16
Messines .. .. .	1917
Bapaume .. .. .	1918
France and Flanders	1916-18
Sari Bair .. .. .	1915
Gallipoli .. .. .	1915

Again in the Second World War the unit did not fight as a Regiment but the men from the area served with the Battalions of the Central Military District.

The Wellington West Coast Regiment was affiliated to The Royal Hampshire Regiment.

### THE TARANAKI REGIMENT

In September, 1858, due to the threatening attitude of the Maoris towards the settlers in the Taranaki area, a volunteer force was raised and named the Taranaki Rifle Volunteer Corps. In this corps was the birth of The Taranaki Regiment.

In 1860 the Governor of New Zealand proclaimed martial law in the Taranaki Province, and on March 17, 1869, hostilities broke out between the Maoris and the settlers. The Volunteer Corps was involved and took part in the Battle of Waikareka.

Hostilities carried on intermittently for a further four years when peace was proclaimed. The Volunteers were not again called out until 1881 when they took part in the action against the Maoris at Parihaka. During this period other Taranaki units such as The Patea Rifles, The Carlisle Rifles and The Wairoa Rifles also took part in the fighting. In 1884 all of these units were formed into an Infantry Battalion which in 1911 became The Taranaki Rifle Regiment.

For its part in the Maori wars The Taranaki Regiment was awarded "New Zealand" as a battle honour, becoming the only New Zealand Regiment to carry this honour and the first colonial unit to receive a battle honour. The Regiment was also awarded the battle honour "South Africa" for the part that men from the area played in the South African War.

In the First World War The Taranaki Regiment provided a Company in the Infantry Battalion raised in the Wellington Military District. Battle honours carried on the Colours from this war are as follows:

Somme .. .. .	1916-18
Ypres .. .. .	1917
Hindenburg Line	
Landing at Anzac	
Egypt .. .. .	1915-16
Messines .. .. .	1917
Bapaume .. .. .	1918
France and Flanders	1916-18
Sari Bair	
Gallipoli .. .. .	1915

In the Second World War men from the Taranaki area served with the Infantry Battalions of the Central Military District.

The Taranaki Regiment was affiliated to The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.).

#### THE WELLINGTON WEST COAST AND TARANAKI REGIMENT

In 1948 The Wellington West Coast Regiment and The Taranaki Regiment were amalgamated. The new Regiment inherited battle honours, Colours and the affiliations of the two former Regiments. The following battle honours for the Second World War will appear on the new Regiment's Colours, now under manufacture in the United Kingdom:

Greece .. .. .	1941
Sidi Rezegh .. .. .	1941
El Alamein	
Cassino	
Italy .. .. .	1943-45
Crete	
Minqar Qaim	
North Africa .. .. .	1940-43
The Senio	
Solomons	

The centenary of the Regiment was celebrated in Waiouru Camp in March, 1959, when the 1st Battalion of the Regiment was reviewed by the Chief of the New Zealand General Staff.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT ON BENEVOLENT WORK

During the months of February, March and April the sum of £301 16s. has been expended in assisting 36 cases.

Several larger grants have been made, and one for £25 was made to co-operate with the Royal Surrey Regiment in meeting the cost of concreting the entrance and foundation for a garage for a totally disabled ex-member of the Regiment. This garage is required so that the man can take delivery of a car which has been provided for him by the Ministry of Health. We were particularly happy to assist in this case as the man has been a member of the Association for some years and a regular reader of this Journal. He was disabled during his service in Korea and the car will mean that

he can now get out of the house and enjoy life more. We have been able in past years to arrange for transport to enable him to attend our annual reunions.

Another substantial grant was made to the mother of a member of the 1st Battalion who had died whilst on leave in the U.K. An ex-member of the 1st Battalion who had recently received a compassionate discharge was assisted to meet arrears of rent, etc., which had accrued owing to the mental illness of his wife.

We were able to assist an elderly ex-member of the Regiment and his wife with fares to enable them to travel to London from Hastings to visit the man's brother who was seriously ill in hospital.

The usual applications have been received for assistance with the cost of fuel, these have been mostly for elderly people and in one case coal was purchased for a man of 84 living all alone on a very small income. In another case an electric fire was purchased for a man of 80 who lives alone and is too frail to carry coal.

Another ex-member of the Regiment was helped to meet arrears of H.P. payments. The arrears had occurred because the man who had been receiving good wages had been on short time, and working only three days a week for a few months, and then the wife had an accident and was unable to continue working to help the income.

An application was received for financial assistance for the family of a man who had entered a mental hospital as a voluntary patient and his wife who was expecting her fourth child was unable to work. The other three are all under school age. A grant of £20 was made to assist a man to meet arrears of rent, etc. He was unable to work regularly due to nervous trouble and his wife has T.B. They also have three children under four years of age. The application in this case was received from the Almoner of the Chest Clinic.

The Princess Louise Kensington Regimental Association asked our co-operation in assistance they were giving an ex-Sergeant during a difficult period due to the fact that his wife had been ill for a very long time and was now bedridden.

Beds and bedding have been supplied in two cases, one for the wife of a man who is elderly and ill and must sleep alone, and another for a widow who due to serious leg trouble must always lie quite flat.

Grants were made to enable the families of two of our ex-members to travel fairly long distances to hospital to visit them regularly, one man had been in hospital since 1957 and the other since early 1960. Grants have also been made in cases where men are in hospital more or less permanently and pyjamas, etc., have to be replaced from very small incomes.

A substantial grant was made for clothing for an ex-member of the Regiment who is now totally blind and has been unable to work for six years. Another grant was made for clothing to the son of an elderly ex-member of the Regiment who is now 14 years of age and exceptionally big for that age. The father is only in receipt of the retirement pension and National Assistance.

Widows and elderly ex-members of the Regiment have been assisted through various organisations with the cost of holidays.

## OLD COMRADES' NEWS

### MILL HILL BRANCH

Nothing unusual has taken place during the past quarter, at least not until Albuhera Day, when 118 members and their ladies attended the 4th Albuhera Dinner at the Century Hotel, Wembley.

The tables were tastefully decorated with flowers of Regimental Colours. These were set off to the best advantage by the regimental silver, kindly loaned for the occasion by Regimental Headquarters and skilfully positioned on the tables by Major Dick Smith.

It was delightful to have as our chief guest the Colonel of the Regiment. He was ably supported by Brigadier and Mrs. B. B. Rachlam, Col. and Mrs. S. F. Hedgecoe Col. and Mrs. F. Walder, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. A. B. McQueen, Major and Mrs. S. A. H. Bower, Major E. L. Heywood, Major and Mrs. G. Sutherland.

During the evening the Colonel of the Regiment handed to me the original menu card for the Albuhera Dinner in the P.O.W. Camp, Hong Kong, 1943. The menu looks quite good, but when "boiled down" it was just rice and water. It is signed by many officers, one of whom, Col. S. F. Hedgecoe, was dining with us. The card was sent to the Colonel by his brother, who was one of the party. This will now be suitably framed and handed to the Curator of the Museum for safe custody—but it will be placed on the table in front of the chairman on all future branch dinners.

It was hoped that the retiring Secretary of the Association, Major A. W. Clark, would have been with us on this occasion—but, unfortunately, he was indisposed and could not attend. His years of work, however, did not go unnoticed by the members of this branch. Major "Nobby" Clark as he is affectionately known to us has done a wonderful job, both for the Regiment and the Association, and from personal knowledge there are many "Die-Hards" very grateful for his help and advice.

His successor, Col. F. Walden, was asked by me to convey in person a message to "Nobby" on behalf of the Mill Hill Branch—it was "A big thank you for what you have done over the years for us all—that your health be soon restored, and best wishes to you and Mrs. Clark for a Happy Retirement."

To his successor, Col. F. Walden, a very happy tenure of office, and you will have all the support we can give you.

But there was one other member absent through no fault of his own. In fact, no function or meeting is complete without him. Yes, you have guessed who it is—"Busty" Hull.

We missed you, "Busty," but there's always another year.

### A New Home

Saturday, May 27, will see the last meeting at Mill Hill. It has been decided to move our belongings to the R.H.Q. at Edgware. It will be a hard break leaving our Regimental Home, but in the circumstances it cannot be avoided.

It is hoped that, as far as possible, our members will make a special effort to attend as often as they did at Mill Hill, and no doubt many "Die-Hards" who live in the surrounding districts will come along and join us. I do appeal for all who have served with the Regiment to join one of the Association Branches. This appeal is to ALL—including our officers. Join a branch—write a letter—do anything—but *keep in touch*. We want you.

A hearty welcome to the following, who have joined the Club: Lt. W. Hurst, D.C.M., M.M., Lt. J. Prager, Mr. F. Cook, Mr. W. E. Bellchamber. We hope to see a lot of you.

How many readers remember ex-Band Cpl. "Tug" Wilson of the 4th Battalion and later W.O.2 of the 2nd Battalion?

He paid me a visit on the 15th. It was 40 years ago when we last met, at Moascar, when he left the 4th to join the 2nd. He stayed to the Albuhera Dinner and met lots of old pals. Let us see more of you "Tug."

Our old "Die-Hards" George and Ena Pocock have left us. The Black Lion Hotel, Long Melford, has claimed them. On behalf of the Club I say good luck; we miss you so very much.

### Invalids

Charlie Escudier is now out of hospital and in harness again with the Band and Corps of Drums of the old 7th Battalion. We are pleased he has overcome such a severe illness.

Capt. George Johnson is another of our members who has been admitted to Roehampton hospital. The Padre and Dick Smith paid him a visit on April 30 to ensure he was not forgotten. We wish him a speedy return to his home in Wembley.

Mr. Bob Ferguson has also been under the weather—but is his old self again now.

"Tubby" Bartropp has had two spells in hospital and is waiting to go again. Don't stay away too long will you?

It was nice to see Mr. Digby's recovery from a bout of sickness. It was noble of him to make the journey to the club in spite of being a little weak in the legs.

Bob Wilson is progressing as well as can be expected. He is "up" one day and "down" the next. Chin up, old "Die-Hard."

It is with regret I report the passing of another "Die-Hard" and member of this branch in the person of Sydney Roffe, who died at West Kensington on April 4, 1961. He had not been well for some time past and with a sudden stroke the end came quickly.

Notification of his death was not received in time for a representative of the Regiment to attend the funeral, but the undertaker, knowing he was an old soldier, placed the Union Jack on his coffin. His medals were buried with him.

Sydney Roffe enlisted on October 9, 1909, and served in France from Jan. 1915 to January 1918. Served at home and in Germany until August 1922, when he

elect to join the Essex Regiment on the disbandment of the 3rd Battalion. He served with that Regiment in Constantinople and India before returning home to be finally discharged on December 21, 1931.

A letter expressing the sympathy of all members of this Branch has been sent to Mrs. Roffe.

Many readers may not know or have even heard of Sydney Roffe, but will when they remember the character with the top-hat, bow-tie, cloak and silver-mounted walking stick, who attended most of the regimental functions.

"Farewell old 'Die-Hard'."

#### Other News

Mr. R. W. Hadley (12056) is at Deansbrook Road and is busy gimping up the silver in the Officers' Mess. He has been on the go since he first joined the Cadet Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers in 1903. After that he joined the 6th Battalion (Militia) in 1907 and then the Depot in 1908 and from there to the 4th Battalion and overseas to the 3rd in 1910. When the 3rd came home in 1915 he was at Winchester and went to France with them. He left in 1920 when he was a sergeant. Joining the Section D of the Army Reserves (6192231) he continued the movement until 1927. After the 1939 War had been on for nearly two years he had had enough of it so thought he would come along and help to finish the job. He joined up again in June 1941 and got a bus number—2598520. Couldn't make it a bigger one as they ran out of ink. Again he was a sergeant when he finished his service.

The Padre at Mill Hill, Major The Rev. Milliner, is now the official chaplain to our Club. Unfortunately, we are going to lose him for six months as he is off to East Africa on an exercise for that period. On behalf of you all I give him a hearty welcome and hope he will remain with us for a long time on his return to this country.

Recently we received three postcards found under the floorboards at Kitchener Barracks, Chatham. They were to the 6th Battalion when they were at Fort Cliff, Lower Barracks and the Great Lines. Do any of you old soldiers recall any of the following? (a) 1746 Sgt. W. A. Harding, (b) 7079 Cpl. J. Gudgeon, M.G. Section, and (c) 10980 Pte. F. C. Neville, "B" Company. If you do, I should be glad if you would let me know.

To all "Die-Hards" wherever you are I send you my Best Wishes.

P. NEWMAN.

#### AN AFRICAN WILBERFORCE

By LT.-COL. L. F. SLOANE-STANLEY

"Of all the rotten jobs I've ever had to tackle, this was the worst," he said.

He was an ex-officer of the King's African Rifles in the Range Officers' Mess at Bisley. This Mess contains a complete mixture of Service types, retired officers of the Royal Navy, Army, Royal Marines and R.A.F., and last July we were swapping tales of odd adventures and past campaigns.

"It was soon after Tanganyika became mandated territory. I was posted to a newly-formed Battalion, a great number of whom were ex-German Askaris.

"These men, every one from a warlike tribe, were natural soldiers, and had enlisted for 12 years. They talked Swahili, and their British officers also spoke the language, *never* English.

"Not having been afflicted by education, these soldiers obeyed orders cheerfully and behaved themselves. They were mostly Mohammedans, or passed as such. They gave no trouble. But, like all Africans, they occasionally and unexpectedly slid back into primitive savagery.

"One day I was sent for by my C.O. at headquarters in Dar-es-Salaam. He informed me that I was to 'proceed'—you never go anywhere in the Army!—to a place called Ukongo, some 30 miles away in the hill country.

"On arrival with my Company I was to arrest the local chief who—against all canons of liberty, maintained his subjects as slaves. Apparently the Germans when they occupied the country had winked at this custom. At any rate, they took no steps to stop it.

"I was then to free the slaves, inform them that they were free, run up the Union Jack, and perform any other ceremony that occurred to me. If Mabruki, the chief, proved recalcitrant I was to bring him into Dar-es-Salaam for 'treatment.'

"Next day, at Reville, I fell my Company in—120 hard-bitten, tough Askaris, with their British platoon commanders. We had in those days in each Company an unarmed Labour 'Wapagazi' Platoon, who did odd jobs. They accompanied us, manhandling the small amount of baggage we had in hand carts.

"After a tiring ten-hour march we reached Ukongo.

"There we were welcomed by Mabruki, and if ever there was an example of a nature's gentleman, he was one.

"He was an elderly, very dignified man, I fancy of Arab stock. Possibly descended from one of the Zanzibari slave dealers. His manners were perfect.

"In a very short time our 'Wapagazi' had erected a palm thatch hut for the officers, and Mabruki placed a certain number of huts at the disposal of my troops. I was beginning to feel distinctly awkward and ill at ease.

"The old gentleman offered us chickens, eggs, and fresh vegetables. But the men had their rations with them, and each officer had his 'chop box' with a selection of Fortnum and Mason products, so we contented ourselves with the eggs and vegetables.

"After we had finished our meal, my native Sergeant-Major came to see us, attended by a few smirking women from the village, to ask if the Company and the village could hold a joint 'Ngoma.'

"A 'Ngoma' is rather difficult to define. It is a sort of combination of an all-ranks' dance and social, lasts all night and ends up in a kind of free-for-all. The local witch doctor usually turns up for the later stages, as usual, on the make.

"First of all a large bonfire is made and lit. Quantities of Pombe—or native beer—are stacked.

"The participants then proceed to circulate round the bonfire in that peculiar shuffling step dance so typical of the African. Tom-toms, sackbut and psaltery, or their equivalents, beat out the time, women join in,

and the dance goes endlessly on—nose to tail—rather like cars going to the seaside on an English Bank Holiday. Occasional adjournments to drink pombe liven up the show, and singing starts.

"The whole thing becomes more and more primitive as the night wears on, and I noticed that our disciplined, good Mohammedan troops had shed all civilised veneer and had lapsed back into what their ancestors had been.

"As the party becomes really worked up, and the couples begin to 'sit out' the witch doctor arrives.

"Now is the time for all good British officers to leave the party—without farewells! We did so and retired to bed—happily a fair distance away from the 'Ngoma'—which was held some way out in the bush, away from the village.

"I had previously had a palaver with Mabruki and explained what I had really come for.

"Mabruki at once informed me that I was proposing the impossible. His slaves all held their land and property from him—he taking a percentage of their produce. Even if he declared them free they would not accept. Nevertheless, I could try, but I would not succeed.

"So there I was—in an *impasse*.

"The next morning we ran up a flag pole and rove the Union Jack on to a rope.

"After breakfast I paraded my Company, looking rather the worse for wear, plus the entire village. I then announced that under the British Government slavery was not allowed, and they were all free.

"This was received in stony silence.

"I then signalled to my Sergeant-Major to hoist the Flag of the Free.

"Unfortunately it *stuck* obstinately half-way. I then ordered my bugler to sound—having no trumpets we couldn't do a fanfare—and he blew something that sounded like the Defaulters call, but I was too abashed by the sullen looks of the village to notice.

"The Union Jack was still at half-mast!

"I then returned to see Mabruki; but he stated that he could not discuss the matter further, that I had carried out what I was told to do, with his permission.

"He further added that a deputation from the village wished to see me.

"On interviewing the deputation, men and women, they all declared that I was attempting the impossible.

"They were all Mabruki's slaves. They were happy and contented, they said, and that if Mabruki was removed, they would immediately install Mabruki's four-year-old son, and consider themselves *his* slaves.

"They did not wish to be freed and I could tell the Government so. All they wanted was to be left alone.

"Anti-climax. What could I do?

"I went back to tell the old chief, with many apologies, that I should have to take him down to Dar-es-Salaam. He agreed to go, but wanted transport. He was too old to walk there.

"After a lot of argument four stalwart slaves volunteered to carry him in a sort of home-made hammock.

"We left Ukongo and on returning to Dar-es-Salaam I handed him over to Government House. (As we left the village we heard loud sounds of rejoicing

—the four-year-old being installed as new chief and slave owner!)

"Poor old Mabruki was deported, I think to the Seychelles. I can only hope that he was soon released. He was a real gentleman.

"Of all the rotten jobs I have ever had to tackle, this *was* the worst."

#### ENGAGEMENT

Extract from the Daily Telegraph, March 8, 1961  
HEWSON—MITCHELL.—The engagement is announced between John Morris Hewson, M.C., The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), son of Lt.-Col. A. Stuart Hewson, M.B.E., T.D., and Mrs. Hewson, of 9 De Vere Cottages, Kensington, W.8, and Vanda, younger daughter of the late Major J. G. Mitchell, of the Colony Club, Barbados, and of Mrs. Edward Hodgson, and stepdaughter of Brigadier Edward Hodgson, O.B.E., of 9 Mallord Street, Chelsea, S.W.3.

#### DEATHS

SPARKES.—Mr. F. G. Sparkes, late C.S.M. of the Regiment, died in hospital on March 9. He was Platoon Sergeant to Col. Walden, who attended his funeral with Brigadier Baker and Mr. J. R. Bell.

ROFFE.—EX-Pte. Roffe, who was a member of the Mill Hill Branch, died on April 4. A letter of condolence was sent by the Secretary of that branch.

FLAVELL.—It is with deep sorrow that we record the death on April 20 of Jeremy, beloved son of Capt. and Mrs. J. S. C. Flavell, aged six years. Letters of sympathy were sent on behalf of our members.

#### THE ROYAL MERCHANT NAVY SCHOOL

Since the beginning of 1960 the Royal Merchant Navy School, Bear Wood, Wokingham, has been open to sons of serving members of the Armed Forces, and already many such boys have joined the school, which previously had been available only to children whose parents were serving or had served in the Merchant Navy or in certain closely associated auxiliaries.

Since 1921 the Royal Merchant Navy School, founded in 1827, has occupied the mansion and park known as Bear Wood in Berkshire, three miles from Wokingham and six from Reading.

The school, hitherto co-educational, has always had many more boys than girls. The governors have recently decided that no further girls are to be accepted, and that when the present girl pupils have left, in about three years, the school shall be solely for boys.

Boys enter usually between the ages of 11 and 13 and remain at least until the age of 16, those suitable for Advanced Level work, remaining until 18. The school is recognised as efficient by the Ministry of Education.

The school complement is 240 boys (though it is hoped to increase this to 300), and there are courses suitable for pupils of all levels of ability.

The grounds—nearly 500 acres in extent—include a 47-acre lake—used for bathing and boating—and a farm which supplies fresh eggs and Jersey milk.

The pupils' and staff living accommodation is in the mansion, to which new classrooms, and well-equipped

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laboratories and workshop have been added since 1948. The school has its own chapel (C. of E.), a large gymnasium, a tuckshop, the Nuffield Sanatorium (1954) and extensive playing fields.

The fees to sons of serving members of the Armed Forces are £270 per annum. Service grants are available.

For further information apply to the Headmaster.

## 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 30th Exhibition during October 1961 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.

The Society is an entirely unofficial organisation and for several years very successful exhibitions have been held in London each autumn. Service artists can derive more interest from their hobby by aiming at submitting works for the exhibitions, which also give them an opportunity to compare their standard and style with others.

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 THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1961, at 2 p.m.

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Lt.-Col. D. E. Simpson, T.D., Lt.-Col. I. D. Brotherton, Major R. D. Hutchings, R.S.M. S. Bartle, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies were received from: Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., R.S.M. J. A. Thom, R.S.M. F. W. Webb.

After consideration and voting it was finally agreed that the following be nominated members:

- 2nd Battalion: Col. S. F. Hedgecoe,
- 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 Militia Battalion: Major E. L. Heywood.
- 6th Battalion: Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L.
- 9th Battalion: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L.

The Chairman explained to the meeting that when the 7th and 8th Battalions are finally closed down the list of ex-officio members will be amended.

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

A. W. CLARK, Major.

Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.

March 29, 1961.

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL OFFICERS' CLUB HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1961, at 4.30 p.m.

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Col. S. F. Hedgecoe, Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., Lt.-Col. D. E. Simpson, T.D., Lt.-Col. I. D. Brotherton, Major R. D. Hutchings, Major E. L. Heywood, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

In attendance: Col. F. Walden.

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

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

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

3. Officers' Club Functions for 1961. The Committee approved the following functions for 1961:

At Home: T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex, on Saturday, July 1.

Dinner: United Service Club, Pall Mall, S.W.1, on Friday, July 21.

Lt.-Col. Brotherton informed the Committee that the 5th Battalion as reconstructed were holding a Cocktail Party on May 17, 1961, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Battalion Headquarters, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, and he would be delighted if this was extended to include all members of the Officers' Club.

It was agreed that members of the Club be invited to attend on the same basis as to cost of tickets and subsidy as normally in force on such occasions.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.45 p.m.

A. W. CLARK, Major.

Secretary, Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club.

March 29, 1961.

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1961 at 2.30 p.m.

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

In attendance: Col. F. Walden, Frank Scarlett, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., R.S.M. J. A. Thom, R.S.M. F. Webb.

1. Election of Chairman. The Secretary reported that the only nomination received under Rule 22 for the Chairmanship of the Committee was that of Col. Fox, and it was resolved and carried unanimously that he be re-elected to the Chair.

The Chairman then welcomed Mr. J. Trunley, a new representative on the Committee from the branches, also Major Newman, who had been re-elected to the Committee. He also welcomed Col. Walden, who had been invited to be in attendance.

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 having been circulated with the Agenda was accepted by the Committee.

Addendum to report:

"The Committee recommended that a further appeal to members inviting them to increase their subscriptions to the Association Funds be circulated, drawing attention to the fall in the value of money since the subscriptions were first made and the ever-increasing costs of administration. A draft of such an appeal to be submitted for approval at the next meeting."

4. Finance Committee's Report. Col. Fox explained that, owing to Major Jones's illness, the Auditor had been unable to prepare the audited accounts for 1960 in time for the Finance Committee to hold a meeting before this meeting, and he was, therefore, deferring the consideration of the accounts until the next meeting of the Committee. He reported that the cash position at date was satisfactory.

5. War Memorial Committee's Report. The Committee reported circulated prior to the meeting was adopted.

Brigadier Rackham said he would like to place on record his appreciation of the untiring support he had received from the members of his Sub-Committee.

Major Hardcastle was asked to examine the Trust Deed in respect of the Mill Hill Cottages to ascertain if the Committee were empowered to make a charge for rent from future occupants.

Col. Fox moved, and it was approved by the Committee that a vote of thanks be recorded to Brigadier Rackham and his Sub-Committee for the amount of work they had put in on the Enfield Cottages on behalf of the Regimental Association.

Major Hardcastle drew the Committee's attention to the fact that the Trustees of the Enfield Homes were now only two in number, and in view of the acquisition of additional land he recommended that two additional Trustees be appointed as soon as possible. Brigadier Rackham and his co-Trustee were asked to deal with this.

## Flatlets:

Col. Fox informed the meeting that permission to acquire the piece of land required for the erection of the flatlets had at last been received.

Col. Fox reported on the estimated costs of erecting four or six flatlets, on the facilities for borrowing money from the Enfield Borough Council and the prospects of obtaining a housing grant. He explained the desirability of maintaining an equitable balance in using the Association Funds as between providing help for individual

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cases of a temporary nature and providing accommodation for a limited number of wounded soldiers and their dependants.

The Architect answered questions on the accommodation provided in his scheme compared with the L.C.C. minimum requirements for flatlets and generally on costs, etc.

After a lengthy discussion it was proposed by Col. Fox, seconded by Col. Clayton and approved by the meeting, that a Special Sub-Committee, composed as follows, be convened at an early date to examine the proposals generally in more detail and report their findings to the Committee at a special meeting to be held as soon as possible.

Sub-Committee: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L., Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Major P. F. Newman, M.B.E.

6. Journal Committee's Report. Major Hutchings informed the meeting that the office of Chief Editor was changing from Col. Green to Col. Walden. He stated that he was checking with Combined Service Publications in respect of the increased revenue from advertisements promised recently.

7. Branches Committee's Report. Col. Clayton reported that two new branches at Enfield and Hounslow were now established and doing well. Brigadier Rackham raised the question of recruiting new members by the branches, and the Sub-Committee was asked to consider any recommendations or assistance they could give to branches in this respect.

8. Association Rules. Lt.-Col. Fox proposed that Col. Walden and Major Hardcastle be appointed to submit their recommendations in respect of alterations to the Rules of the Regimental Association necessitated by changes in formation of the Regiment. Agreed.

9. Salary. The Committee considered an application from Mrs. Brooks for an increase in salary, and it was proposed by Major Hardcastle, seconded by Col. Hedgecoe and approved by the Committee that her salary be increased to £400 per annum from January 1, 1961.

10. Grants to Other Charities. The Secretary was instructed to add to list of other charities who received annual grants the Star and Garter Home, Richmond, and to make an immediate grant of £100. It was also agreed that patients from our Regiment in the Star and Garter Home should receive donations at Christmas equivalent to those given to ex-members of the Regiment at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.30 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, June 29, 1961.

A. W. CLARK, Major.

Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.

March 29, 1961.



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Last year 86% of the ex-Regular Service men and women who registered with the Regular Forces Employment Association (National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen) were placed in civilian employment, compared with 81% in 1959.

Civilian jobs were found for 18,411 of the 21,314 ex-Regulars who registered last year. This represents 1,135 fewer placings and 2,750 fewer registrations than in 1959.

"This fall in registrations was largely due to the reduction in Service releases, which were very much less in 1960 than in the previous year," said Air Vice-Marshal R. S. Blucke, General Manager of the Association.

Personnel placed from the different arms of the

Services during 1960 were as follows: Royal Navy, 4,677; Royal Marines, 390; W.R.N.S., 16; Army, 7,587; W.R.A.C., 52; R.A.F., 5,626; W.R.A.F., 63.

The work of the Association last year will be reviewed at the annual general meeting to be held at the Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall, London, on May 5.

Sir Ian Jacob, who has had a distinguished military career and was also Director-General of the B.B.C. from 1952 to 1959, will be the principal speaker at this 76th annual meeting of the Regular Forces Employment Association. The Association, whose head office is at 62 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1 (Tel.: Victoria 7262), has 50 branches throughout the country staffed by "Job-finders," all of whom are ex-Regulars and who personally interview every man and woman registering.

## 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
T/Brig.	J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E.	Commander, 168 Brigade
T/Brig.	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/Brig.)	I. R. Burrows, O.B.E., M.A.	Military Attache, Moscow

## REGULAR OFFICERS

Lt.-Col.	I. H. Battye, M.B.E., B.A.	Commander, 1st Battalion
Major	G. C. Dawson	M.C.T.E., Colchester
Major	E. F. Thompson, M.C., T.D.	D.A.A.G., Malta
Major	P. L. Crutchfield	D.A.Q.M.G. (Works), East Anglian District
Major	P. L. Pearce Gould, M.B.E., M.A.	G.S.O.2, Jamaica
Major	R. D. Hutchings	P.R.O., War Office
Lt.-Col.	D. Sax	Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham
Major	C. N. Clayden	2IC, 1st Middlesex
Major	E. A. H. Jeffcoat	D.A.Q.M.G. (Qtrg.), H.Q. Land Forces, Hong Kong
Major	P. W. Galvin	1st Middlesex
Major	J. N. Shipster, D.S.O.	1st Middlesex
Major	C. H. Mievill, M.C.	1st Middlesex
Major	P. G. V. Bellers	Home Counties Brigade Depot
Major	K. J. Carter	G.S.O.2 (Strategic Reserve), Southern Command
Capt.	J. S. C. Flavell	Home Counties Brigade Depot (held strength)
T/Major	H. J. A. Moore	Staff Captain "Q," British Troops, Cameroons
Capt.	J. I. D. Pike, M.C.	1st Middlesex
T/Major	B. A. M. Pielow	H.Q. Aden Protectorate Levies
Capt.	R. M. Cain, B.A.	Adjutant, Hong Kong Regiment
Capt.	G. G. Norton	1st Middlesex
Capt.	B. K. Clayden	Training Officer, 5th Middlesex
Capt.	B. H. Marciandi	Staff College, Camberley
Capt.	C. L. Lawrence, M.C.	Adjutant, Home Counties Brigade
Capt.	P. A. S. Wollocombe	H.Q. Aden Protectorate Levies
Capt.	L. S. Rutherford	D.A.D.P.R., The War Office

Capt.	J. S. B. Pollard	Adjutant, 1st Middlesex
Capt.	R. D. Fisher	1st Middlesex
Capt.	M. V. Hayward	R.M.A. Sandhurst
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	H.Q. Aden Protectorate Levies
T/Capt.	H. M. du V. Lohan	G.S.O.3 (Int.), H.Q. 5 Infantry Brigade
T/Capt.	M. C. D. L. Gilham	Adjutant, 5th Middlesex
Lt.	P. Mallalieu	1st Middlesex
Lt.	M. G. Waite	1st Middlesex
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
Lt.	A. B. Cowing	1st Middlesex
Lt.	G. Goring	1st Middlesex
Lt.	R. C. Pitman	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	J. Lofting	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	T. J. Hubert	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	P. Money Penny	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	B. K. Finch	1st Middlesex

## REGULAR QUARTERMASTERS

Capt.	S. C. W. Weller, M.M.	5th Middlesex
Capt.	A. E. F. Waldron, M.B.E.	1st Middlesex
Capt.	P. Donovan	1st Middlesex
Capt.	F. L. Griffiths	Home Counties Brigade Depot (Held Strength)

## SHORT-SERVICE OFFICERS

Major	L. G. Lohan, T.D.	Ministry of Defence
Major	A. E. Peasley	Adjutant, Home Postal Depot, R.E.
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
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	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	G. A. Dudson	1st Middlesex

## SHORT-SERVICE QUARTERMASTERS

Lt.	E. J. Pike	Home Counties Brigade Depot (Held Strength)
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	5th K.A.R., Nakuru
2/Lt.	A. F. J. Luck	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	G. J. Rayner	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	H. M. Pattison	625 Ordnance Depot, Cyprus
2/Lt.	N. J. Chandler	West India Regiment
2/Lt.	G. B. Johnson	5th Q.O. Nigeria Regiment
2/Lt.	B. M. O'Regan	1st Middlesex

## RECENT RETIREMENTS

T/Brig. R. A. Gwyn, O.B.E.	Major C. A. Trestain, M.B.E.	Major F. J. Bennett
Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E.	Major J. Bywaters, M.B.E.	Capt. G. Kitchener
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