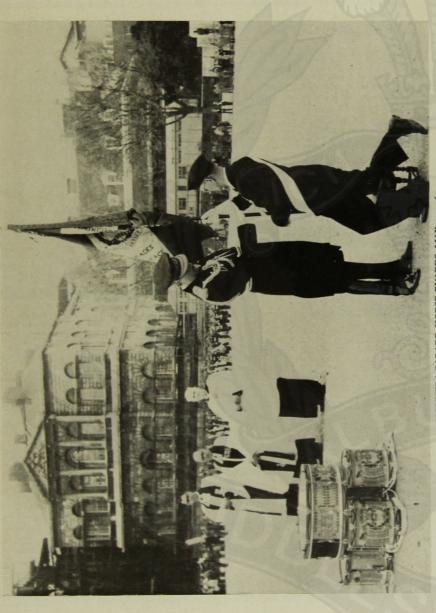
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The Die Hard

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

HALF YEARLY : APRIL AND OCTOBER

VOI XV No. 6

OCTOBER 1963

PRICE 2/6

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

(57th and 77th)

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.

"Mysore," "Seringapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajos," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "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, '17, '18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915, '17, '18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg." "Bellewaarde," "Anbers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916, '18," "Albert, 1916, '18," "Barestin," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courcelette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916, '18," "Bapaume, 1917, '18," "Arras, 1917, '18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917, '18," "Arleux," "Pilckem," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," 917, 10, Alfas, 1917, 10, vimy, 1917, Scarpe, 1917, 10, Alfaux, Phickem, Langemarck, 1917, "Menin Road," Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Gambrai, 1917, '18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," rongen (1904), Brookening, "Cestagrees," "Hagebrouck," "Bailleul," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," uu Noru, St. Quentul Cana, Courtas, Sciic, Varietenines, Samusc, France and Frances, 1947-16, Flany, 1947-18,
"Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suvla," "Landing at Suvla," "Sciint Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumani,
"Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Herusalem," "Jericho," "Jordon," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18," "Metopotamia,
1917-18," "Murman, 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," "Djebel Romana," "Sicily, 1943": "Francosonte," "Sferro," "Sferro Hills." Italy, 1944-45: "Arzio," "Carreceto," "Gothic Line," Djebei Roumana, "Sichy, 1943: Francolonic, Sicho, Sicho, Filis, 1943; "Anzio," Carrecto, Gothic Line," "Monte Grande." North-West Europe, 1944-45: "Normandy Landing," "Cambes," "Breville," "The Odon," "The Orne," "The Orne," "Hill 112," "Bourguebus Ridge," "Troam," "Mont Pincon," "Falaise," "The Seine, 1944," "The Nederlin," "Le Havre," "The Lower Mass," "Venraij," "Meijel," "Geilenkirchen," "Venlo Pocket," "The Rhineland," "Goch," "The Reichwald," "The Rhine," "Lingen, " Brinkum," " Bremen."

"Korea, 1950-51," "Naktong Bridgehead," "Chongju," "Chongchon II," "Chuam-Ni," "Kapyong-chon," "Kapyong."

Colonel of the Regiment Major-General J. E. F. Willoughby, C.B.E.

Regimental Headquarters

Location: T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.

ROII. Col F. Walden.

R.O.III: Major E. L. Heywood. Curator, Regimental Museum: Major R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E.

Regular and Territorial Battalions

1st Battalion O.C.: Lt.-Col. F. de R. Morgan, M.C.

Location: South Barracks, Gibraltar

O.C.: Lt.-Col. G. W. Webber, T.D. Locations

Battalion H.Q. \ T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, The Royal Rifles of Canada, Quebec. "H.Q." Company \ Middlesex.

"A" Company T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.

"B" Company T.A. Centre, Churchfield Road, Ealing, W.13. "C" Company T.A. Centre, Old Park Avenue, Enfield, Middlesex.

"D" Company T.A. Centre, Hanworth Road, Hounslow, The Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers).
Middlesex.

County of Middlesex Army Cadet Force

Headquarters: 30 Pont Street, London, S.W.I. Commandant: Lt.-Col. P. L. Cooper, T.D. Cadet Executive Officer: Major A. T. Jones, M.B.E., T.D.

16th (Hornsey) Cadet Company 32nd (Edgware) Cadet Company.

72nd (Hounslow) Cadet Company.

75th (Staines) Cadet Company. 77th (Feltham) Cadet Company.

Allied Units

CANADA

7th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, Sarnia, Ontario. 50th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, Sanna, Unitario.

Wales Rangers), Peterborough, Ontario.

102nd (Wentworth) Field Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, Dundas,

The Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment.

Home Counties Brigade Depot

H.Q.: Wemyss Barracks, Canterbury. Brigade Colonel; Col. M. T. N. Jennings. D.A.A.G.; Major K. J. Carter.

Officers Location Statement

REGULAR OFFICERS

Major-General	G. P. L. Weston, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.	Director, Land/Air Warfare, The War Office
Major-General	J. E. F. Willoughby, C.B.E	G.O.C. 48 Div. (T.A.)/West Midland District
Col. (T/Brig.)	C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C., M.A	Head, British Commonwealth Liaison Mission and M.A.
		Korea
Col.	W. P. M. Allen, O.B.E., M.C.	Colonel A/Q., H.Q. 1 (BR) Corps
Col.	J. W. G. Ormiston	Colonel G.S., M.I. 1, The War Office
Col.	A. R. Waller, M.B.E., M.C	G.S.O. 1 (Col.), H.Q. Southern Command (Increment), for
		work arising from C.I.C.C. (West)
LtCol. (T/Col.)	A. G. Hewitt, M.B.E., M.C	Army Liaison Officer, B.D.L.S., Australia
LtCol.	D. C. L. Nolda, O.B.E., B.A.	A.A.G., H.Q. Land Forces, Hong Kong
LtCol. (T/Col.)	I. R. Burrows, O.B.E., M.A.	SACEUR's Rep. to Standing Group Rep., S.H.A.P.E.
LtCol.	I. H. Battye, M.B.E., B.A	G.S.O. 1, H.Q. NORTHAG
LtCol.	F. de R. Morgan, M.C	Commander, 1st Battalion
LtCol.	P. L. Pearce Gould, M.B.E., M.A	Commander, 1st Battalion The Trinidad and Tobago
		Regiment
LtCol.	C. N. Clayden	Deputy Comdt, H.C. Brigade and Commander H.C.
		Brigade Depot
Major	G. C. Dawson	M.C.T.C., Colchester
Major	E. F. Thompson, M.C., T.D.	D.A.A.G., A.G. 2, The War Office
Major	P. L. Crutchfield	G.S.O. 2 (Int.), G.H.Q., FARELF
Major (T/LtCol.		A.D.P.R., Joint Public Relations Service, MIDEAST, Aden
Major (T/LtCol.		T.S.O. 1, School of Infantry
Major	P. W. Galvin	D.A.Q.M.G., Q(A.E.) 2, The War Office
Major	E. A. H. Jeffcoat	2IC, 1st Battalion
Major	J. N. Shipster, D.S.O	B.M., 125 Infantry Brigade (T.A.)
Major	C. H. Mieville, M.C.	A.M.A. to U.K. High Commissioner, Pakistan
Major	P. G. V. Bellers	D.A.A.G., P.S.4, The War Office
Major	K. J. Carter	D.A.A.G. and Brigade Adjutant, Home Counties Brigade
Major	B. A. M. Pielow	1st Battalion
Major	H. J. A. Moore	D.A.Q.M.G., Scottish Command
Major	R. M. Cain, B.A.	Staff Captain (O6), The War Office
Major	G. G. Norton	4th Battalion Queen's Own Royal Nigeria Regiment
Major	B. K. Clayden	1st Battalion
Major	J. I. D. Pike, M.C	A.C.C. Depot and Training Battalion
Major	B. H. Marciandi	G.S.O. 2, H.Q. Tanganyika Rifles
Major	C. L. Lawrence, M.C.	Staff Captain (Q), H.Q. MELF
Major .	P. A. S. Wollocombe	11th Battalion King's African Rifles
Capt.	TOPPHI	G.S.O. 3 (S.D.), H.Q. 2 Division
Capt.	R. D. Fisher.	G.S.O. 3 (Ops./Trg.) H.Q., MELF
Capt.	NA TA II	Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst
Capt.	1 77 37 37	Adjutant, 5th Battalion (T.A.)
Capt.		Adjutant, 1st Battalion
Capt.	* ** * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	ist Battalion
Capt.	*** 0 . 0 .	1st Battalion
Capt.	** **	Adjutant, Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers)
Capt.	MODION	ist Battalion
Capt.		Joint School of Nuclear and Chemical Ground Defence
Capt.	M. D. Legg	
	D 37 11 11	All Arms Junior Leaders' Regiment, Tonfanau
Capt.	MEDI	Royal Sierra Leone Military Forces
Capt.	M. F. Deakin	Army Air Corps Centre
Capt.	P. D. J. Clarke	Ist Battalion The Jamaica Regiment
Lt.	G. Bulloch	The Jamaica Regiment Home Counties Brigade Depot (P.S.)
Lt. Lt.	G. Goring	Home Counties Brigade Depot (P.S.)
Lt.	A. B. Cowing	A.D.C. to G.O.C. 48 Div. (T.A.)/West Midland District
Lt. Lt.	R. C. Pitman	Home Counties Brigade Depot (P.S.)
Lt.	J. G. Lofting	1st Battalion
Lt.	P. J. Monypenny	1st Battalion
Lt.	B. K. Finch	15t DattaffOII

```
.. .. .. ıst Battalion
             P. J. Hubert
             R. A. Bartlett
                           ... .. .. 1st Battalion
Lt.
                           .. .. .. 1st Battalion
.. .. 1st Battalion
             P. F. Packham
2/Lt.
             I. B. Hawkins
2/Lt.
             D. I. Daniell
2/Lt.
             M. B. Montgomery .. .. 1st Battalion
2/Lt.
             S. C. W. Weller, M.M. .. 5th Battalion (T.A.)
Major (Q.M.)
             Major (Q.M.)
Capt. (Q.M.)
Capt. (Q.M.)
Short-Service Officers
             2/Lt.
             E. J. Pike .. .. 6th Battalion King's African Rifles
Capt. (Q.M.)
             M. Wild .. .. st Battalion
Lt. (O.M.)
Extended-Service Officers
                         .. .. Adjutant, Home Postal Depot R.E.
             A. E. Peasley
                                 5th BATTALION (T.A.)
Honorary Colonel
              W. E. Pringle, M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P.
T.A. Officers
              G. W. Webber, T.D. . . . Battalion Commander
Lt.-Col.
              P. J. Hall .. .. .. 2IC
Major
              J. D. Gunnell, T.D. . . . O.C. "H.Q." Company
Major
              E. J. Naish .. .. .. O.C. "C" Company
Major
              R. J. Leighton, T.D. . . . P.M.C.
Major

      J. K. E. Slack
      I.O.

      M. J. Beaumont
      O.C. "A" Company

      D. W. Hogg
      O.C. "D" Company

Capt.
Capt.
Capt.
              S. L. J. Henshaw .. .. O.C. "B" Company
Capt.
             G. J. Young ... 2IC "A" Company
D. W. Hume ... 2IC "C "Company
K. G. Price ...
Capt.
Capt.
Capt.
              H. E. Couch.. .. .. 2IC "D" Company
Capt.
              K. D. Murray .. .. 2IC "H.Q." Company
Capt.
             Lt.
Lt.
                                         Platoon Commander "C" Company
Lt.
                                         Signals Officer
              M. I. S. Doran .. .. ..
Lt.
                                         Platoon Commander "B" Company
              D. O. M. Thomas .. ..
Lt.
                                         Recce Platoon Commander
              Lt.
                                         Platoon Commander "C" Company
Lt.
                                         Platoon Commander "B" Company
Lt.
              J. A. Van de Pol .. . . . Platoon Commander "A" Company
                                         Platoon Commander "D" Company
              J. C. Parkinson .. .. ..
                                         Platoon Commander "B" Company
              Lt.
                                      .. Platoon Commander "B" Company
Lt.
              J. J. Smith .. .. Platoon Commander "A" Company
                                         Platoon Commander "B" Company
              2/Lt.
              2/Lt.
2/Lt.
2/Lt.
 Attached Officers
              D. P. Winstanley, R.A.M.C. . . Medical Officer
 Major
 Capt.
              R. L. MacQueen, R.A.M.C.
              Paymaster
              A. C. V. Menzies, B.A., A.K.C. . . Chaplain
 Permanent Staff Officers
              J. A. George, Queen's Surreys .. Training Officer
 Major
            A. E. McManus . . . . Adjutant
S. C. W. Weller, M.M. . . . . Quartermaster
```

Major (Q.M.)

Bde. Appt. or

Pos. A |Rank

93 Sgt.

L. Plumb

ı Mx.

W.O.I

W.O.I

Name

T. McMillan

R. Budden

WARRANT OFFICERS, CLASS I

E.R.E. Bt. Col. Major Capt. Lt.	I. D. Brotherton D. L. James, T.D. S. J. Carter P. N. Ashton				A.D. Mov. (T.A.), 54 East Anglian Div./Dist. D.A.Q.M.G. Mov. (T.A.), 54 East Anglian Div./Dist. O.C. "H.Q." Company, 56 (London) Infantry Brigade, T.A. L.O., 56 (London) Infantry Brigade, T.A.
	ROLL OF	WA	RRANT	COE	FICEDS AND SENIOR N.C.O.

ROLL OF WARRANT OFFICERS AND SENIOR N.C.O.s (Corrected to September 17, 1963)

Unit

4 Buffs (T.A.)

4/5 R.W.K.

Bde. Appt. or

Pos. A/Rank

101 Sgt.

105 Sgt.

107 Sgt.

Name

J. Williamson

M. Turner

B. Edev

Unit

ı Mx.

ı Mx.

"H.Q." Company

R.M.A.S.

11	W.O.1	R. Dodkins	ı Mx.	(T.A.)	116	Sgt.	W. Turner	Sch. of Inf.
**		IC. DOGRIIIS	I IVIX.		***	Cart	IDCI	(Hythe)
	WARRAN	NT OFFICERS, C	TI ASS II		119	Sgt.	J. Raffael	ı Mx.
4	W.O.2	A. Cooper	Bde. Depo	+(H C)	127	Sgt.	B. Pritchard	5 Mx. (T.A.)
15	R.Q.M.S.	P. Soper, B.E.M.	Singapore		130	Sgt.	A. Briggs	ı Mx.
13	1	1. Soper, B.E.M.		Forces	132	Sgt.	J. Redmond	ı Mx.
24	R.Q.M.S.	K. Beale	H.Q. 11 Ir		133	Sgt.	D. Miles	ı Mx.
24	N.Q.WI.S.	IX. Deale	n.Q. 11 II		135	Sgt.	J. Young	ı Mx.
25	W.O.2	W. Wright	C. & E.P.	Gp.	139	Sgt.	J. Kerr	1 R. Sussex
	W.O.2	A. DaCosta			141	Sgt.	G. Overton	5 Mx. (T.A.)
30	W.O.2	A. DaCosta	4/5 R. Su		154	Sgt.	J. Leat	ı Mx.
-	W.O.2	S. Michel	M (T)	(T.A.)	158	Sgt.	F. O'Rawe	ı Mx.
37			5 Mx. (T.	A.)	167	Sgt.	J. Barr	Bde. Depot (P.S.)
39	W.O.2	M. Eastap	ı Mx.		172	Sgt.	M. Quinn	Bde. Depot (P.S.)
42	W.O.2	G. Simmons	ı Mx.		173	Sgt.	R. Shave	ı Mx.
47	W.O.2	E. Steward	ı Mx.		175	Sgt.	C. Pritchard	ı Mx.
54	W.O.2	D. Walters	ı Mx.		178	Sgt.	R. DaCosta	Bde. Depot (H.S.)
55	W.O.2	E. Thompson	22 S.A.S.I		179	A/C/Sgt.	M. Weston	Sch. of Inf.
57	R.Q.M.S.	P. Amor	22 S.A.S.F	₹.				(S.A. & S.W.)
					182	Sgt.	R. Scott	Mons O.C.S.
		LOUR-SERGEAN			184	Sgt.	J. Dickens	Bde. Depot (P.S.)
4	C/Sgt.	J. Potter	ı Mx.		186	Sgt.	D. Burke	ı Mx.
6	C/Sgt.	P. Dive	ı Mx.		188	Sgt.	J. Meacock	ı Mx.
7	A/W.O.2	J. Moyse	ı Mx.		191	Sgt.	J. Whittle	ı Mx.
28	C/Sgt.	A. Nicholson	ı Mx.					
30	C/Sgt.	W. Smith	ı Mx.				BANDMASTER	?
					4	W.O.1	J. McShane	ı Mx.
		SERGEANTS						
7	Sgt.	B. Warner	ı Mx.			SE	ERGEANTS (BA	ND)
8	Sgt.	M. Butler	P.S. Staff		2	Sgt.	D. Carson	R.M.S.M.
10	Sgt./O.R.C.		ı Mx.		3	Sgt.	G. Beechey	ı Mx.
II	A/C/Sgt.	J. Martin, M.M.	ı Mx.					
13	Sgt.	R. Davies	ı Mx.				DRUM MAJOR	1
24	A/C/Sgt.	R. Clements	ı Mx.		2	W.O.2	J. Lewis	Bde. Depot (P.S.)
30	Sgt.	R. Power	ı Mx.			(D.M.)		
31	Sgt.	K. Lloyd	ı Mx.					
32	Sgt.	C. Partridge	5 Mx. (T.A	A.)	5th B	ATTALION	THE MIDDLE	ESEX REGIMENT
35	Sgt.	D. Lagden	A.A.S. Art				(D.C.O.), T.A.	
40	Sgt.	C. Orme	Bde. Depot	t(H.S.)				
44	Sgt.	M. Elston	Bde. Depot	t(H.S.)	Ran		Name	Company
49	Sgt.	H. Horder	ı Mx.				NT OFFICERS,	
52	Sgt.	R. Ford	Bde. Depo	t (P.S.)	W.O.2			H.Q." Company
53	Sgt.	C. Shinn	ı Mx.		W.O.2		Coberts "]	B" Company
60	Sgt.	C. Blackwell	ı Mx.		W.O.2			C" Company
82	Sgt.	B. Tarry	ı Mx.		W.O.2			D" Company
89	Sgt.	S. Speakman	ı Mx.		W.O.2		ie "]	H.Q." Company
92	Sgt.	W. Argent	ı Mx.		W.O.2	B. Stack	"	A" Company

W.O.2 R. R. Birmingham

Rank	Name	Company
Call P	COLOUR-SERO	"D" Company
C/Sgt.	H. Rea	
S/Sgt.	L. Hawkins, B.E.M.	"H.Q." Company
DIDE.		(Sigs.)
C/Sgt.	L. Salter	"B" Company
C/Sgt.	E. James	" A" Company
C/Sgt.	J. Elderfield	"C" Company
C/Sgt.	A. E. Howe, M.B.E.	Battalion H.Q.
C/Sgt.	K. Mortimer	"H.Q." Company
	SERGEAN	NTS

Jog.		
	SERGEAN	ITS
gt.	C. Holdford, B.E.M.	Battalion H.Q.
gt.	E. R. Oakley	"H.Q." Company
gt.	A. Sills	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	M. O'Brart	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	R. Elliott	"A" Company
Sgt.	D. F. Gainsbury	"B" Company
Sgt.	C. B. Wagner	"B" Company
Sgt.	F. W. Hawes	"B" Company
Sgt.	D. McKerron	"C" Company
Sgt.	A. R. Kemp	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	M. Ward	"D" Company
Sgt.	G. Young	"D" Company
Sgt.	G. R. Brown	"D" Company
Sgt.	R. J. Bartholomew	" D " Company
Sgt.	G. Ashcroft	" H.Q." Company
Sgt.	B. Lauwers	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	K. G. Anderson	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	R. E. Ambler	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	A. Green	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	C. J. Purchese	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	G. M. Stunt	"H.Q." Company
P/Sgt.	M. C. Barton	"C" Company
P/Sgt.	J. Graham	" A" Company
P/Sgt.	H. C. Large	"D" Company
P/Sgt.	B. Smith	"A" Company
P/Sgt.	N. K. Gasson	"D" Company
P/Sgt.	V. Hill	"C" Company
P/Sgt.	D. Harwood	"C" Company
		((D !) ()

-1-8"		
	PERMANENT	STAFF
W.O.1	H. Boseley (R.S.M.)	Battalion H.Q.
W.O.2	S. Michel (C.S.M.)	" A" Company
W.O.2	D. W. Adkins	"B" Company
	(C.S.M.)	
Sgt.	B. Pritchard	"C" Company
Sgt.	C. W. Partridge	"H.Q." Company
Set	G R Overton	"D" Company

" B" Company

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR EMPLOYMENT OF REGULAR SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN

CALLING ALL REGULAR SOLDIERS

Do you know that there is a Branch of this organisation operating in the locality of your home?

It is only waiting for a personal call from you, or a ring on the telephone or a postcard, to get busy with your employment problem.

You can always get the address of your Area Jobfinder from your local Post Office or from your Regimental Association.

ESSAY COMPETITIONS, 1964

Bertrand Stewart Essay Competition, 1964. Prize: £80. Closing date: June 22, 1964. Subject:

"In both Allied and Soviet Armies, improvements in night vision equipment are tending to make movement by night in the Battle Area easier, particularly for armoured vehicles, than in the past. At the same time, improvements in battlefield surveillance techniques make this movement easier to detect.

"The need to conduct operations round the clock at an increased tempo and the difficulties of using the hours of darkness for routine supply, movement and reinforcement to the extent we have done in the past, pose a number of new problems to the commander in the field.

"Discuss these problems in relation to training, equipment, manpower and morale and state what you consider their effects might be on the Tactics of Global War."

General conditions for this essay competition will be the same as for the 1963 competition and can be found in A.C.I. 399 of 1962.

George Knight Clowes Memorial Prize Essay, 1964. Prizes: 1st prize £35; 2nd prize £15. Closing date: March 31, 1964. Subject:

"The modern trend is to make the soldier's life much more attractive by giving him better accommodation, food, pay and amenities. Yet, at any moment he may be operationally involved in some country like Kuwait or Brunei, where toughness and hardihood are essential. Without the better conditions it would be difficult to get enough recruits. Without the hardihood the soldier is not efficient. Discuss the problem of these seemingly irreconcilable requirements."

General conditions for this competition will be the same as for the 1963 competition and can be found in A.C.I. 285 of 1962.

Lord Lieutenant's Appeal for Widows Flatlets Albuhera Close Enfield

Have you given your contribution to this worthy cause?

Editor's Comments

It was with the greatest pleasure that we read the notice in the press on Saturday, June 22 last, stating that Her Majesty The Queen had approved of the appointment of Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall as Lord Lieutenant of the County of Middlesex.

We heartily congratulate the General on being selected for this appointment; it is indeed very fitting that Her Majesty's chief representative in the County should be a distinguished officer from the Regiment.

Prior to this appointment Gen. Bucknall, deputising for the Lord Lieutenant, had the honour of attending the Oueen at London Airport on Her Majesty's return with the Duke of Edinburgh from their tour of Fiji. New Zealand and Australia.

Apart from the holder of the Lieutenancy coming from the Regiment we are also very gratified to know that Her Majesty The Queen has approved the appointment of Col. R. D. Sherbrooke-Walker as Vice-Lieutenant for the County, and we offer him our heartiest congratulations.

As many of our readers will have seen in the National Press, Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks has, after nearly 15 years, relinquished the post of Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, House of Lords, and is now on the board of directors of Boyis Ltd.

We were very pleased indeed to receive a visit last May from Col. E. N. Armstrong, the Colonel of The Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment, whilst he was in this country to attend the wedding of H.R.H. Princess Alexandra.

As the time factor prevented him from visiting Battalions and the Brigade Depot, arrangements were

and retired officers and their wives, together with certain civic dignitaries, at a cocktail party at Regimental Headquarters on May 22. This was a most pleasant occasion and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

mentioned the fact that, although the alliance with his Regiment goes back 50 years, their association with Col. Warre and the 57th extends over 100 years. He went on to say how very proud they are of the affiliation. So are we. Long may it flourish!

* * * Attention has been drawn to an error in Kemp's "The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own), 1919-52," which should be corrected.

In the Honours and Awards section on page 433 it shows under M.C.s "2/Lt. J. T. Rank." This is an obvious misprint for 2/Lt. J. T. Panks, who was awarded the decoration as the result of a recommendation by Brigadier Rackham when he was commanding the 7th Battalion in 1940.

Unsold copies of the Regimental History will have an amendment slip inserted.

* * These comments would not be complete without a reference to that most loyal of "Die-Hards," "Busty Hull, who died at his home in the early hours of May 26 last.

Although it was known for some time that his health was far from good, the news of his death came as a great shock to all those who had known, or heard of, him. Many of us have lost a true friend, whose love for his Regiment was deep and sincere.

The excellent obituary notice on page 349, written by Major Dick Smith, gives as true a pen picture of "Busty" as it is possible to give.

In a letter of thanks afterwards Col. Armstrong

made for him and his charming wife to meet serving

Col. Ian Burrows has now taken up his appointment as the Representative of the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, to the Standing Group Representative at S.H.A.P.E., and we congratulate him on his wellearned promotion.

Whilst we are sure that he will be a great success in his new job we should like him to know how very much he will be missed as Vice-Chairman of the Regimental Association. In that capacity he was a tower of strength, and always ready and willing to take on more work in the interests of past and present members of the Regiment.

Last July we were able to present one of the very fine coloured reproductions of Lady Butler's famous oil painting, "Steady the Drums and Fifes," to her youngest son, Mr. Martin H. Butler, who now lives at Hampton Wick, Surrey. He was the model for the small drummer boy without a helmet in the foreground of the painting.

Congratulations to Capt. Peter Cheesman on his marriage to Fraulein Ingrid Urbansky at St. Clement's Catholic Church, Ewell, on August 9 last.

By the time these notes appear in print Lt. Andrew Cowing will have taken over his new duties as A.D.C. to the G.O.C. 48th Division, T.A., who as we all know, is the Colonel of our Regiment.

We feel sure that Andrew will take care of our Colonel's personal comforts.

Capt. Mike Deakin visited Regimental Headquarters recently and told us that he was expecting to be seconded to the Royal Malayan Air Force from next November to teach gunnery observation and recce. As the R.M.A.F. will be equipped with the French "Alouette" helicopter, he will first have to do a short course in France on this machine before flying out to Kuala Lumpur.

Some older members of the 4th Battalion may remember ex-Pte. James Fairbairn (9868), who died as a prisoner-of-war in Germany in 1916.

We have recently been in touch with his widow, who is nearly 78 years of age and lives in North London. They were married in 1911.

A recent visitor to Regimental Headquarters was ex-Pte. P. J. Hartnett (6212496), who served with the 2/8th Battalion during the early part of the last war. He left the Battalion in Northern Ireland on being downgraded.

He now lives at 18 Cissbury Ring South, Woodside Park, Finchley, N.12.

On completion of his appointment as Staff Captain (Q.) at H.Q., M.E.L.F., in February 1964, Major Chris Lawrence is due to return to the 1st Battalion.

Lt. John Lofting has been a regular member of the Army cricket XI this year, having been selected to play against the Royal Navy, the Royal Air Force, and the Club Cricket Conference.

Capt. Hugh Lohan has been selected for the appointment of Adjutant, The Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers), and is due to take over his duties this

Earlier this year we discovered that Canon L. S. Maurice, Rector of Cottenham, Cambs., is an old " Die-Hard'

On leaving Haileybury in 1917, where he was a contemporary of Major "Bill" Heywood, he went to an O.C.T.U. at Oxford. From there he was commissioned into the Regiment and went to France to join our 18th (Pioneer) Battalion, which was then commanded by Lt.-Col. Cyril McNeile, better known as "Sapper" (Bull Dog Drummond).

In his younger days Canon Maurice was a very good cricketer, having played for Haileybury, in the Seniors' Match at Oxford, and about a dozen times for Northamptonshire in county matches.

We apologise to Major Chris Mieville for the misspelling of his name twice in the April issue of The Die-Hards. The proof reader has no excuses to offer!

A surprise visitor to Regimental Headquarters on September 19, when these notes were being compiled, was Capt. Michael Morton, who has returned from Southern Rhodesia, where he does not feel there is much of a future for him.

Mr. J. A. Norris, who served with the 3rd Battalion in the British Army of the Rhine and the Upper Silesian Plebiscite Force after the 1914-18 War, is now living in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia.

Capt. "Joe" Stacey, who served in both the 1st and 2nd Battalions, writes from Bristol, where he is now living, to say that he is keeping fairly well. He sends his best wishes to all "Die-Hards."

Major Ernest Thompson was posted direct from Malta to the War Office last May, where he is a D.A.A.G. in the A.G.2 Branch.

Recently one of the staff at Regimental Headquarters met ex-Sgt. E. Williams (159702), who was in the Machine Gun Platoon of the 1st Battalion from 1920

He has been verger of St. Martin's Church, Catterick Camp, for the past 28 years.

WANTED

The Die-Hards, Vol. VII, issues Nos. 5 and 6 for September and December 1945.

For some inexplicable reason the volumes at Regimental Headquarters were bound without the above

Can anyone help by supplying the missing numbers?

Personalia

Major George Bagley, who served before the 1914-18 War with the 3rd Battalion and after the war with the 1st Battalion at Gravesend until his retirement, when he went to live in the U.S.A., writes to say that throughout the 42 years he has spent in the United States he had always hoped to return to England to spend the final years of his life. He is doubtful now, though, whether he will be able to do so, as he had a heart attack last year and he has been forbidden by his doctor to do more than walk a short distance each day. He is bitterly disappointed and ends his letter by saying, "In my opinion England is the grandest country in the world." How wonderful to read this!

Major Peter Bellers, who has put in such sterling work whilst commanding the Junior Soldiers' Wing at the Brigade Depot for the past two and a half years, has been selected for the appointment of D.A.A.G. (P.S.4), The War Office, with effect from October 17,

We have recently had news of ex-Pte. Frank Buckle (3005) who served in the 9th Battalion from March 3, 1915, to June 16, 1916, when he was discharged as a result of war wounds.

He now lives at 37 Furneaux Avenue, West Norwood, London, S.E.27.

Albuhera Parade, 1963

The dictionary tells us that a jubilee is celebrated every 50 years and proclaimed by the sound of trumpets, rejoicing and uttering songs of triumph.

This year sees the Jubilee of the Regimental Association, and the sound of trumpets, rejoicing and uttering songs of triumph were heard loud and clear on May 12 at the Horse Guards Parade and at Wellington Barracks afterwards.

The occasion was celebrated by holding a parade of past and present members of the Regiment and the presentation of a standard to the Old Comrades by Gen. Sir Richard Hull, Chief of the Imperial General Staff. This distinguished officer is the son of Gen. Sir Amyatt Hull who was the Commanding Officer of the 4th Battalion at Mons in 1914 and later, as Divisional Commander of the 56th (London) Division, had the 1/7th and 1/8th Battalions fighting under his command. Well might he recall, as he did in his speech, that his earliest memories were of the Regimental call and sounds of the bugle in the barracks occupied by men of the Regiment.

From 9 a.m. onwards "Die-Hards" of all generations came to the assembly area for instructions as to where they should fall in, and in many cases to inquire if some old comrade-in-arms was present. Men who had not met since 1914 were reunited. They had for various reasons not attended the numerous dinners and annual gatherings that have been held, but had made a special effort for this parade. Old men wearing medals awarded by Oueen Victoria were more numerous than one would have expected, and in addition to these, to be seen were medals with the profile of each sovereign since her reign. Not only were the medals of each campaign from the Boer War to Cyprus there, but practically every decoration possible was worn including those of our two surviving holders of that most coveted decoration for valour, the Victoria Cross. It was the first time these two "Die-Hards" had been on parade together since the end of World War I. They have attended the same socials, but never the same parade.

Once the parties had formed up ready for marching on the main parade ground, the "Advance" was sounded and the parade marched on to the tune of that splendid march "Old Comrades." This march was specially chosen years ago when the veterans of the Franco-Prussian War marched past the Kaiser and the tune sets the sentiment of such a parade and fits in to the atmosphere automatically generated amongst those actually on parade and to the spectators. The swagger of pride in the ranks of the old and bold was splendid to see and brought tears to the eyes of some spectators. Except for the commander of each detachment, all marched in the ranks. This is how it should be. In the past they had stood shoulder to shoulder in a trench and here they marched shoulder to shoulder on parade.

Bowler hats and immaculate suits marched next to old cloth caps and overcoats that had seen better days; Corps Commander next to the man whose name was permanently on the Defaulter Roll; Battalion Commanders next to the Bugler. Their clothes and station in life differed but the pride and brightness of eyes did not as they marched with elan and pride abundant.

The directions on the programme for the march-on said "sit." The spectators did not; they stood. It just could not be helped. One of those spectators, now in the uniform of a Chelsea Pensioner, enlisted 70 years ago (he was then 20 years of age) and he was keenly watching a youngster who had enlisted as a lad in 1896 and was again in the ranks.

The formed line consisted of, on the right the detachment from the 1st Battalion, the Old Comrades in the centre and the left flank completed by the detachment from the 5th Battalion. The Army Cadet Force, consisting of representatives from the various County Units, kept the ground—the youngest generation assisting the oldest.

After compliments had been paid to the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-Gen. J. E. F. Willoughby, appearing in public for the first time wearing the insignia of rank as a General Officer, and to the C.I.G.S. who stood on the dais flanked by ex-Sgt. Ryder, v.c., and ex-Sgt. Edwards, v.c., the inspection was held. During the inspection the C.I.G.S. spoke to a number of men who had served under the command of his father. The inspection was of short duration, and as soon as completed the Drummers of the 1st Battalion piled drums to form an altar and the two uniform detachments moved in to form a hollow square.

The Standard was then laid on the drums and the dedication service given by the Assistant Chaplain-General, London District, the Rev. L. M. Mathews, attended by two former Chaplains to the 1st Battalion when they were fighting in Korea, the Rev. W. E. B. Jones and the Roman Catholic Chaplain, Father Terence Quinlan.

The presence of the two Chaplains who had served with the Regiment gave great pleasure to many. Their popularity can be judged by the friendly reference of "Gus" Jones and "Terry" Quinlan when being spoken of by their soldiers.

After the blessing of the Standard, the C.I.G.S. presented it to the care of the Ensign, Major P. F. Newman, escorted by ex-Sgt. Hull and ex-Sgt. Bratby. This party was well chosen. Major Newman has for the last few years worked hard to get a parade such as was held to take place in the capital and this was the culmination of his brain child. "Busty" Hull was the instigator of a Standard for the Old Comrades and had spent much time and money offered as a prize for the accepted design as well as having his own design



Battalions. 3.

painted. Ex-Sgt. Bratby, as a soldier who fought at Mons under the command of Col. Hull and a long-standing member of the O.C.A., represented the Old Comrades in general.

The Ensign gave the spectators a demonstration of carriage as near perfection as the writer of this article has ever seen. The escorts reflected the glory they felt in their honourable position—Bratby, as erect as a ramrod, and Hull, performing his duty with pride after arising from a bed of sickness to which he was to return and die in peace 14 days later.

After the Presentation, the parade re-formed and then marched past the C.I.G.S. to the tunes of "Sir Manley Power," "Paddy's Resource" and "Lass o' Gowrie"-the same tunes these men had heard as they had marched past different commanders in all parts of the globe. Both the spectacle and the music were recorded by the B.B.C. and I.T.V. as well as being reported in various newspapers. The numbers on the march, plus old soldiers infirm owing to age or wounds there as spectators, were approximately 550, every man-jack bursting with pride and enthusiasm. There is no greater critic of a soldier than another soldier, so the remark of one of the War Office police who when serving was a member of the Durham Light Infantry and had been on duty at the Horse Guards for numerous such parades over the years is worth passing on. He said it was by far the best parade of its kind he had ever seen. Coming from such a source that is indeed a compliment.

In Wellington Barracks the parade was dismissed

and those who had taken part, plus members of their families who had been spectators, retired—or should the word be "advanced"?—to the refreshment rooms where there was free solid refreshment galore. So much that even with the aid of the enlisted boys in the Band and Drums and the lads from the Army Cadet Corps who had so ably kept the ground could not eat it all. The catering by the NAAFI in its quantity and quality was excellent and credit was passed by many regarding the staff and to the arrangements of the Regimental Association in supplying such a satisfying finale to the parade.

We stood elbow to elbow and it was with much nudging and edging past each other that small groups of old friends were able to mingle and gather together in one spot after a joyous shout of recognition over the heads of the many assembled. I saw a small group of the 12th Battalion have their photographs taken with their two V.C.s in the centre, whilst many people with cameras were taking family or private groups. Whatever activities were going on, nothing could stop the cries of joy of sudden, and often unexpected, reunions.

The reader of this article well knows his own experience on this, or any such occasion, and can well imagine my pleasure at hearing a small group of fellows of the last war insist on singing together the Regimental song, "Here's to the Old 'Die-Hards'."

A most memorable and joyful occasion to which many will add, "When can we have another?"

R. W. J. S.

A GRAND LOTTERY

in aid of

The Widows Flatlets Scheme at Albuhera Close, Enfield

A lottery is being organised by the Regimental Association.

Tickets in books of five (price 2s. 6d. per book) have been sent out to Battalions and to all Branches of the Regimental Association.

Any member or ex-member of the Regiment who is interested in obtaining tickets, and who cannot get them from the above sources, should apply to Major E. L. Heywood at Regimental Head-outsters.

It is hoped that everyone receiving books of tickets will do their utmost to sell them all—and then ask for more.

It is essential that the name and address of the purchaser is clearly written in BLOCK LETTERS on the counterfoil of each ticket.

The following prizes will be awarded:—

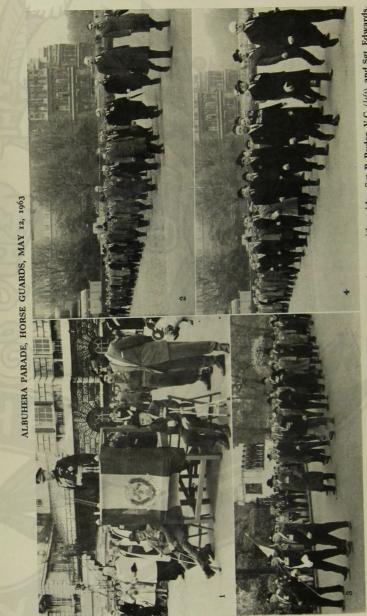
1st Prize .. 20% of net proceeds

2nd ,, .. 15% ,, ,,

3rd ,, .. 10% ,, ,,

In addition 5% of the net proceeds will be divided between those who draw the next twenty tickets.

The draw will take place during the Annual Regimental Reunion at Seymour Hall on Friday, November 29, 1963.



REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The Die- Hards

The following items have been added to the exhibits in the Regimental Museum since the publication of the last Die-Hards Journal:-

Medals of Lt.-Col. Hon. A. F. Randolph, C.M.G.,

This group of medals consists of the C.M.G., D.S.O., 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal for 1914-18.

Col. Algernon Forbes Randolph was born in 1865 and commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Middlesex Regiment on August 23, 1884. He was promoted Captain on September 23, 1891, and to field rank December 21, 1901, retiring on February 22, 1905.

After retiring from the Regular Forces he was appointed Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel of 3rd (Special Reserve) Battalion, Suffolk Regiment.

During the war of 1914-18 he served on the staff as an Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster-General from November 7, 1914, and in addition to receiving the C.M.G. and D.S.O. he was mentioned in despatches on January 1, 1916, and January 4, 1917.

Presented by Lady Dorothy Randolph,

Medals of 2/Lt. F. Butterworth

With the two medals for the war of 1914-18, the British War Medal and Victory Medal, there were a number of assault-at-arms silver medals and athletic medals, including one for the best all-round sportsman. Whilst serving in the ranks, he was the champion manat-arms of Burma in 1906, of Lucknow in 1911, and of Poona in 1913, and for every year inclusive 1906-13 he won a silver medal either as a champion sportsman or champion soldier.

Presented by Mrs. K. Butterworth.

Medals of 2/Lt. P. M. Gibson, M.C., M.M.

Lt. Gibson was awarded the Military Medal whilst serving with the 2nd Battalion after transferring from the A.S.C. Besides the two decorations, he was awarded the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.

Presented by Mrs. F. W. Moore.

TRUCIAL OMAN SCOUTS' RENDEZVOUS LONDON

The Scouts have recently established a central meeting place in London where past and present members, irrespective of rank, can meet over a pint of ale or the like.

The place is "The Crown," situated in Brewer Street, London, S.W.r. It is best approached from Piccadilly Circus and is just behind the Regent's Park Hotel.

It is thought that Scouts and former Scouts living in or passing through London might conveniently use "The Crown" early on Friday evenings or at midday on Saturdays.

Medals of 2/Lt. J. S. Groggin

Lt. Groggin's group consists of the Queen's South Africa with six bars, King's South Africa with two bars awarded for his services during the Boer War with the 2nd Battalion, the 1914 Star and bar, British War Medal, Victory Medal with oak leaf for his two mentions in Sir John French's despatches of October 8 1914, and Sir Douglas Haig's despatch of May 19, 1916. awarded whilst serving as R.Q.M.S. with the 1st Battalion. His last medal is the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal awarded to him whilst holding the rank of Regimental Quartermaster-Seigeant. Purchased.

Medals of C/Sgt. S. T. Steadman (6101707)

The medals of ex-C/Sgt. Steadman are the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal and Belgian Croix de Guerre earned whilst he was serving with the Yorkshire Regiment during 1914-18 and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal awarded whilst with the Middlesex Regiment. His last award was the Meritorious Service Medal awarded after leaving the Colours. Details of C/Sgt. Steadman's service appears in the obituary column of the Die-Hards Journal,

Presented by Mrs. Steadman.

Flag of Battalion H.Q., 18th (1st Public Works, Pioneers) Battalion

This flag is 26 in. by 16 in., the top half being red and the bottom half vellow. It bears the Divisional sign, a double-three domino, and the crossed rifle and pick-axe worn by this Battalion as collar badges by other ranks and under the Regimental badge on the lapels of the officer's service dress jacket.

The Battalion was raised by Col. John Ward, M.P., and went to France with the 33rd Division as Pioneers in November, 1915, returning to England in Novem-

Presented by Lt.-Col. C. P. Hinman (last Commanding Officer of the 18th Battalion).

THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB Change of Address

The temporary premises of the Army and Navy Club at 46 Pall Mall, occupied by members during the rebuilding of the Club, are now closed. The new Club House, rebuilt on the original site on the corner of St. James's Square and Pall Mall (36-39 Pall Mall), was opened on September 23.

The Club House includes some 60 bedrooms with private bathrooms at 55s. per night (double) and 35s. (single). A few rooms without bathrooms are available at 25s. per night.

Subscription rates remain the same.

OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

CLUB DINNER

The Regimental Officers' Club Dinner was held at the United Service Club on Friday, June 28.

Major-Gen. J. E. F. Willoughby, Colonel of the Regiment, presided. Others present were: Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall, Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, Major P. G. V. Bellers, Lt. R. A. Bartlett; Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey, Lt.-Col. H. W. Clayden, Lt.-Col. C. N. Clayden, Lt.-Col. H. Cook, Lt.-Col. D. Y. Cubitt, Major R. M. Cain, Major K. J. Carter, Capt. W. G. A. Crumley, Lt. A. B. Cowing; Lt. P. M. Dubbery, Lt. G. A. Dudson; Col. W. D. Ellis; Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, Capt. J. S. C. Flavell, Lt. G. N. Freeborn; Lt. E. C. Graham, Lt. G. Goring, Lt. J. C. J. Grobel; Col. S. F. Hedgecoe, Major H. K. Hardcastle, Major G. Hartley, Major E. L. Heywood, Capt. M. V. Hayward, Capt. J. M. Hewson; Major E. A. H. Jeffcoat; Major G. Kent; Major Sir Arthur Lewey, Capt. P. J. T. Lane, Lt. J. G. Lofting; Col. A. M. Man, Lt.-Col. T. L. Marks, Lt.-Col. F. de R. Morgan, Major H. Marsh, Major P. D. H. Marshall, Capt. A. E. McManus; Major E. J. Naish, Major P. F. Newman; Major M. F. Pearson, Lt. P. F. Peckham, Lt. R. C. Pitman; Brigadier B. B. Rackham, Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, Major B. St. G. A. Reed; Col. R. D. Sherbrooke-Walker, Col. W. A. Stewart, Lt.-Col. D. Sax, 2/Lt. S. C. D. Searle; Major E. F. Thompson, Lt. D. O. M. Thomas; Lt. J. A. Van de Pol; Col. F. Walden, Col. A. R. Waller, Major A. E. F. Waldron, Major M. P. Weedon, Major S. C. W. Weller, Capt. C. G. Webber.

CLUB COCKTAIL PARTY

In view of the impending move of the 1st Battalion to Gibraltar the Cocktail Party this year was held at the United Service Club on Friday, June 21.

A total of 83 members attended, including guests, who were received by the Colonel of the Regiment and Mrs. Willoughby.

GOLF

Regimental Spring Meeting

The Regimental Spring Meeting this year was held at Littlestone-on-Sea on Saturday and Sunday, April 20 and 21.

The attempt to revive these one-time flourishing meetings is not without hope. For the last Autumn Meeting 11 players entered; for this Meeting there were 10 entries.

The weather on Saturday did its best to damp anybody's enthusiasm, but succeeded only in soaking the players to the skin. Sunday morning broke with a cloudless sky and, although it did not remain so, there was only one shower in the afternoon which lasted about half an hour and that, after the previous day, was mere "chicken feed"!

The results of the various competitions were: SINGLES MEDAL COMPETITION (18 HOLES) SCRATCH AND HANDICAP

SCRATCH AND TIAN		тт .	37.4
	Gross .	Нср.	. Net
Capt. R. D. Latham (winner,			
scratch and runner-up, handi-			0
cap)	97	13	84
LtCol. C. N. Clayden (winner,			
handicap and runner-up			
scratch)	98	24	74
Col. M. Crawford	IOI	15	86
Cant M S Gedve	IOI	14	87
Capt. J. M. Phillips LtCol. T. W. Chattey	106	12	94
It-Col T W. Chattey	109	14	95
Col. I. R. Burrows	127	24	103
LtCol. F. de R. Morgan	134	24	110
Capt. J. M. Hewson	137	24	113
Major K. J. Carter	146	24	122
Major F. A. H. Jeffcoat	154	24	130
Iviajoi D. II. Za. Jene	No card	18	_
Brigadier A. E. Green	No card	18	_
Capt. M. V. Hayward			
Capt. W. G. A. Crumley	No card	24	
Lt. A. B. Cowing	No card	24	
Lt. G. Goring	No card	24	
STABLEFORD FOUR	SOMES		-
			Points
LtCol. T. W. Chattey and Capt.	M. S. Geo	lye	
(winners)			29
LtCol. J. R. B. Worton and Lt	Col. C.	N.	
Claudan (minners-un)			22
Brigadier A. E. Green and Capt. F	R. D. Lath	am	21
LtCol. F. de R. Morgan and L	t. G. Gor	ing	17
Col. M. Crawford and Major K.	I. Carter		14
C.1 I W C Ormiston and	apt. IVI.	V.	
Hayward Col. I. R. Burrows and Lt. H. S.			13
Hayward	Lyons		10
Lt. A. B. Cowing and Lt. P. J. M	onvnenny		5
Lt. A. B. Cowing and Lt. F. J. W.	onypeiniy		,
BATTALION FOURSOME	e e Roce	v	
BATTALION FOURSOME	C I T W		
Col. J. W. G. Ormiston and Lt	Col. 1. W		
Chattey (and Battalion) (winner	rs) .		9 down
Cal M Crawford and LtCol	. J. R. E		
Worton (oth Battalion) and	Col. I. P		
Burrows and Lt. G. Goring	(Ist Bat	-	
tolion) (ruppers-UD)	11	C	10 down
Capt. R. D. Latham and Cap	pt. M. V		
Harmond (Depot)			13 down
Major E. A. H. Jeffcoat and C	apt. M. S	5.	
Codera (ath Battalian)			13 down
Lt. H. S. Lyons and Lt. P. J. M	Monypenn	V	
Lt. H. S. Lyons and Et. 1. J.			14 down
(1st Battalion) Brigadier A. E. Green and Lt	Col. C. N	1.	1
Brigadier A. E. Green and Et.			16 down
Clayden (2nd Battalion)	Jaior K	I.	
LtCol. F. de R. Morgan and M	rajor it.		16 down
Carter (1st Battalion)	monrad o	n h	oth dave
Mrs. Tom Chattey nobly ap	beared 0	ad al	he prizes
There is no doubt that all wh	io attende	au	loroughly
		C	

The Die- Hards

enjoyed the Meeting, and it was particularly gratifying to note that some players had travelled very considerable distances to take part, especially Col. Crawford from Scotland and Brigadier Green, once again, from Somerset.

The 1st Battalion housed six of the competitors in the Mess as well as others who were put up by various married officers. On Saturday evening a most excellent buffet supper—reminiscent of pre-war days—was laid on in the Mess for all visitors, officers and their wives, and if any of the golfers who, as a result of the drenching rain in the afternoon, felt downcast, this certainly dispelled any such feelings. We are much indebted to all those who had anything to do with these admirable arrangements and we shall sadly miss such kind hospitality whilst the Battalion is overseas.

Home Counties Brigade Meeting, 1963

This Meeting was held at Littlestone-on-Sea on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 7 and 8, and was favoured with the sun on both days. Altogether some 25 members of the Brigade competed, of whom 10 were from the Regiment.

On the first day the Medal Singles Competition was played off and the Regimental representatives made the following scores:—

	Score	Placing
Capt. M. S. Gedye	76	Ist
LtCol. C. N. Clayden (tied)	78	3rd
Capt. W. G. A. Crumley	81	7th
Lt. G. Goring	82	9th
Lt. A. B. Cowing	105	16th
Lt. P. J. Monypenny	106	17th
Major K. J. Carter	120	19th
Lt. H. S. Lyons	121	20th
2/Lt. J. B. Hawkins	124	21st
Lt. R. A. Bartlett	141	22nd

The team result in this Competition, decided on the four best net scores, was as follows:

		Score	Placing
Middlesex Regiment	 	317	Ist
Queen's Own Buffs	 	339	2nd
Royal Sussex Regiment	 	341	3rd
Queen's Surreys		Incompl	ete team

We heartily congratulate the members of our team on winning the newly-presented Queen's Own Buffs Cup for this Competition, and also Capt. Gedye on winning the Cup for the best individual score.

On May 8 ten pairs played off for the Inter-Regimental Greensome Stableford Match, which was closely contested. In this the Regimental representatives made the following scores:—

	Points	Placing
LtCol. C. N. Clayden and Capt.		
W. G. A. Crumley (tied)	29	5th
Lt. P. J. Monypenny and Lt. A. B.		
Cowing	67	
Major K. J. Carter and Lt. H. S.	6}	8th
Lyons	6)	
Lt. R. A. Bartlett and 2/Lt. J. B.		
Hawkins	5	roth

The team result in this Competition, decided on the two best net scores, was as follows:—

		Points	Placing
Royal Sussex Regiment	 	62	Ist
Queen's Own Buffs	 	62	2nd
Queen's Surreys	 	59	3rd
Middlesex Regiment	 	35	4th

The Cup for this Competition was awarded to the Royal Sussex Regiment, on producing the winning round of 34 points

11th (SERVICE) BATTALION

At the end of the First World War this Battalion, raised in August, 1914, as part of the 12th Division of Kitchener's First Army and disbanded in February, 1918, on a reorganisation of the Army, was endowed with a strong Old Comrades Association of its own which had fairly frequent reunions for several years. By the early thirties, however, it had petered out and it was then that an annual lunch meeting of the surviving officers was started on the initiative of Major G. B. Anderson and Capt. H. L. MacIlwaine. This meeting has continued every year until the present time, and more than once was honoured by the presence of the Colonel of the Regiment. The most recent lunch took place on Friday, May 17 last, at the Connaught Rooms, London, and was attended by: Lt.-Col. H. A. Maynard, M.C., T.D. (in the chair), Major R. Pears, Capts. H. V. Bury, H. L. MacIlwaine, R. C. Sheen and H. R. Strong, M.C., and Mr. Donald McDonald. Regular attenders absent through illness were: Cols. W. H. Samuel and H. Peploe, D.S.O., Major G. B. Anderson, M.C., Capt. A. F. E. Robinson and Mr. C. Spalding. Other known survivors unable to attend were Cols. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., and L. L. Pargiter, D.S.O., Capts. E. A. Moore and H. Wilkins, M.C., Messrs. A. P. L. Blaxter and B. G. Coventry. The excellent arrangements were in the hands of Capt. H. L. MacIlwaine, who acts as secretary. Mention must also be made here of a number of former officers of the Battalion who attended over the years but have now passed on: Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe, M.C., in command at the time of disbandment; Lt.-Col. (Q.M.) J. English; Majors J. H. Piper, M.C., and C. T. Whinney, M.C.; Capts. G. Chipperfield, C.B.E., S. J. Chudley, J. G. P. Hunt, E. C. Malden, C.V.O., M.A., M.B., A. Regan and H. Stuart-Cook; Messrs. H. Scott and T. Sewell.

57th/77th OFFICERS' DINNER

The 57th/77th Officers' Dinner will be held this year at the United Service Club on Thursday, November 21. Any officer who has at any time served with any of the following Battalions is eligible to attend:

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th (Militia) and 6th (Militia).

All Regular and Militia officers will be notified individually, but it is not possible to circulate all who qualify. Those, therefore, who wish to attend are asked to notify Regimental Headquarters so that they may, in due course, receive particulars.

LAND-SEA FORCES IN A TARANAKI BATTLE

By Major E. R. Andrews Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment

(By courtesy of The Taranaki Herald)

One hundred years ago, on June 4, 1863, Maori met pakeha in a battle that made history in the Second Taranaki War—a combined operation of land and sea forces against a Taranaki tribal strongpoint across the Katikara River, a few miles south of Oakura.

This decisive battle which did not, as expected, end the resistance of the Taranaki tribe, was directed by the officer commanding in New Zealand, General Cameron, and was watched by the Governor, Sir George Grey, from H.M.S. Eclipse, whose guns took part in the engagement.

It was a month after the disastrous ambush at the Wairau (Oakura Beach) before General Cameron was ready to move against the hostile Maoris in the Tataraimaka area. Meanwhile the troops had constructed three large redoubts on the road from New Plymouth, all within signalling distance of each other.

These were St. Patrick's (Poutoko on Windy Corner on the present main road), St. Andrew's (Oakura) and St. George's (Tataraimaka) on the north side of the Katikara River.

These redoubts were 50 yards by 40, with two flanking angles at diagonally opposite corners, and were strongly held.

Cultivations

The Maoris occupied the ground to the south of the Katikara, having potato and maize cultivations on the flats. They prepared a fortified pa about 1,000 yards inland as well as isolated whares and had some outlying trenches blocking the coast road (the only road at the time) and river fords.

About a quarter of a mile south of the river they erected a toll gate at which was a board with a scale of charges.

Night march

On the evening of June 3, General Cameron moved out from town with almost all the Regular troops of the garrison, their places being taken by the Volunteers and Militia

In order that the march would not be impeded, the General had sent his three 12-pounder Armstrong guns and transport, all bullock drawn, ahead under a strong escort earlier in the day.

At dark, patrols were placed around New Plymouth to stop any so-called "friendly." Maoris slipping to the south with news of the move.

A day's food

The troops were clad in dark blue serge tunics and each man carried a rolled blanket and a day's cooked provision in his haversack.

The weather was cool and the troops were keen for action to revenge their nine comrades killed the month before.

Detachments joined the column at Poutoko and Oakura and the force arrived at St. George's Redoubt

(at the foot of Pitone Road) just before 4 a.m. having waded through icy streams on the way.

As a soldier put it, "There was no such thing as taking off our boots or turning up our pants; we just plunged through. The main thing was to keep our powder dry.

Tot of rum

"General Cameron had a double tot of rum served all round which was very welcome and we had a couple of hours' rest before forming up for the attack."

The force now numbered nearly 900, comprising in round figures the following: Staff and transport, 20; Royal Artillery, 125; Royal Engineers, 15; 57th Regiment, 400; 65th Regiment, 85; 70th Regiment, 235.

Plan of attack

The General sent the 57th Regiment and Capt. Mercer with the three Armstrong guns up the north bank of the river about 500 yards to do the main attack while he remained near the river mouth with the 65th and 70th Regiments in reserve.

The 57ths were to cross at a ford covered by the fire of the Armstrongs, attempt to drive the enemy from any whares or trenches in the cultivations and then assault the pa which appeared to be the strongest point.

Naval support

Heavy covering fire for the attack was provided from the sea from H.M.S. *Eclipse* with the Governor, Sir George Grey, on board.

The Eclipse was a fine barque-rigged steamer of 750 tons, 11 knots, and was commanded by Commander Mayne. She mounted an Armstrong 7-inch 110-pounder rifle, an 8-inch 68-pounder smoothbore, both pivot guns, plus two 32-pounders, one on each broadside. She carried a crew of 90, and was to see a great deal of service around the New Zealand coast.

The attack

A vivid description of the action was given by a sergeant of the 57ths: "At daybreak we fell in and Col. Warre referred to the massacre of our nine comrades a month ago and said the General had allowed the Old Die-Hards to make the attack and was sure they would do their duty.

"Some thoughtless soldiers were all for a 'Hip hip hurrah' and had to be sternly sat on as the Maoris were within hearing.

"However, as it became daylight, they got a real rouser from the *Eclipse*.

"We rushed down the riverbank into two feet of water, cleared the far bank and re-formed. The Armstrong battery took up the running with earsplitting bangs and then off we went across a small potato field. There was no time to be lost as we were in full view and under heavy fire.

Hand to hand

"Some outworks were cleared and then a rush was made at the main position. The Maoris lined the parapet and trenches with their tomahawks and we went for them with the bayonet. A few minutes' stern work and it was all over. Three large whares were fiercely defended and soon caught fire from close-range rifle flashes. The defenders fought to a finish and died under the blazing ruins. No quarter was given or asked for.

Lucky escape

"The man Lever, who looked after our baggage, had been minding a bottle of rum for me. He must have decided it was easier to carry it within than without for he led the charge, fell into a trench full of Maoris and had a narrow squeak indeed.

"Many Maori wounded were seen to escape into the bush after fighting with great bravery.

"Just before we reached the pa the *Eclipse* scored a direct hit which killed at least one Maori as the fuse was found embedded in the body. While we were storming the pa our supports under Lt.-Col. Logan were clearing the ground to our right and General Cameron led the 65th and 70th across the river mouth where they cleared the road to the south and then came over the cultivations towards us.

Governor arrives

"We were just about to cart the bodies of the fallen off when Sir George Grey, who had landed from the warship, came up accompanied by General Cameron and his staff, and warmly congratulated the *Old Die-Hards*. He then inspected the position. It was not a typical Maori fighting pa as there was no palisading, nor were the parapets of any height. The main trench was in the form of a parallelogram with the longest side towards us. Within were some rifle pits and three entrenched raupo wharves."

Twenty-four bodies of the Maori fallen were taken to a large mass grave near St. George's Redoubt.

Meanwhile, two of the Band Boys (the Band in action acted as stretcher bearers) went over to the Maori toll gate, took down the board with the list of charges, and carried it back.

The General said to Sir George Grey, "I thought you said it would need a thousand men to take that toll board. Why, there are two Bandsmen of the Die-Hards walking off with it!"

Casualties

The 57ths lost three killed or mortally wounded and two severely wounded while the 70ths had one wounded.

The dead and wounded were embarked on H.M.S. *Eclipse*, the Governor, General Cameron, his staff and 150 of the troops also going back to New Plymouth in this way, arriving at 1 p.m.

The main body of troops marched back, the Oakura and Poutoko contingents dropping off at their respective posts and the main body arriving in town at 5 p.m.

Within the previous 20 hours, they had marched 30 miles, taken part in a spirited action and twice forded four ice-cold streams on the way.

KOBE RE-VISITED

By Brigadier Christopher Man

When the special train pulled out of Sannomiya Station, Kobe, in September, 1945, I never thought that I should return to Japan, and I had no wish to do so. However, on August 23, almost 17 years later, I alighted at the same station, having spent the night in a sleeper of Japan National Railways from Tokyo. This was the start of what can, I suppose, be called, a "Sentimental Journey" into the past.

My visit to Japan was on duty, as I had escorted the diplomatic bag from Seoul to Tokyo on August 21. It was fortunate for me, that my visit should coincide with that of some members of the I.D.C. course, with the result that I was lucky enough to meet them on the night of my arrival at cocktails at the house of the British Military Attache, Col. Peter Dean, and again, the following day, at lunch as a guest of the British Ambassador.



Left centre: The new Kobe Post office built on the site of the old Kobe House P.O.W Camp. Left rear: The old godown, still standing. The road is the same one on which the prisoners used to exercise on occasions

My journey to Kobe began at Tokyo station when I boarded the night express at 8.40 p.m. on August 22. A sleeper had been reserved for me by Peter Dean, and I was ushered into a large compartment, divided into upper and lower bunks, all of which were discreetly curtained off. On each bed was laid out a blue cotton kimono, and a pair of straw sandals.

My travelling companions were, I should say, Japanese business men bound for Osaka and Kobe, and I was the only foreigner. Nobody took the slightest notice of me, and I was fascinated to watch through a chink in my curtains as the little men prepared for bed. Clothes were meticulously folded, and, clad in knee length underpants and very modest vests, they robed themselves in their kimonos and stood in the aisles, before retiring for the night.



Right foreground: The old godown, with the new Kobe Post Office, on the site of the old Kobe House, right centre. Left centre: The site of the Mission to Seamen building, now demolished

The train started dead on time. The bunk was remarkably comfortable, and the coach steady with very little roll. The engine was a big diesel electric. I opened my window and dozed off, only to be awakened by a hand on my shoulder, and the train conductor shaking me in a polite sort of way. He hissed in my ear, "Pliss to close window"—adding, with great pride, "Air Condisshun." A marked change from any previous awakenings I had had from Japanese in the past.

I slept well, and awoke at 6 a.m. as the train came to a halt at Kyoto. From then on I sat up and looked out at the familiar views, remembering again the look of the houses, the sprawling factories and the positive network of electric cables. The amount of new buildings that has sprung up is fantastic by any standards, and was the main feature that impressed itself on me.

As we left Osaka, I peered out to try to identify the chimney of the old graphite factory, but failed to spot it, nor could I remember the name of the station at which we used to alight, although I think I did see the baseball ground with the statue of Babe Ruth outside. Sannomiya Station, astride the main road Numo Biki Cho, was reached exactly on time, and I followed the porter to the exit, where I took a taxi to the Oriental Hotel.

I had particularly asked for this hotel as I used to see it through the bars of my window in Kobe House, and I remember often saying to Martin Weedon how, one day, I would stay there and drink to the damnation of the Nins

In reality, it is not a very inspiring edifice and is in fact being demolished in 1964—when a new ultramodern building will take its place, built, ironically enough, on the site of the now defunct Mission to Seamen which was opposite to the old Kobe House.

After a bath and shave, I set off with a street map, and

found myself, ten minutes later, looking at what used to be my gaol. Kobe House, as we knew it, is no more. It has given way to a new Kobe Post Office. The Mission to Seamen has also gone, but only recently. The red brick go-down that was separated from us by a road, and which faced the office occupied by Morimoto, still stands, and is so like Kobe House that at first I thought it was that building. Butterfield and Swire have a small, new building, on the corner, and I made myself known to Mr. Clunies Ross, the Kobe agent. He had no idea that a P.O.W. camp had existed nearby, and had never heard a word in the two years that he had been in Kobe of the British "Horios" who sweated it out in the war.

From the road where we used to exercise—and on which I took a sentimental turn for old times sake, being careful (from force of habit) to go no further than the intersections at each end—I made my way to the sports field at the back. This is much as we knew it, but enlarged to take in more gardens. The gates through which we used to enter are still there, but locked, and I had to go round the corner, and come in at the side.

It was a strange feeling to stand again at the place where "Glass Eye" saw—or did he see?—Norman Brownlow's blanket waist coat. To look again at the gate where the Papal delegate blessed us from 500 yards range, and gave us all an orange apiece—(the Japs would not allow him any closer). I could see, in my mind's eye, the well-known figures of Bill Martin, Zaz Pitt, Ewan Graham, Eric Dibb, R.S.M. Challis, C/Sgt. Poulter, Jimmy Field, Martin Weedon, and all the others, dressed in that ghastly rig of Jap P.O.W. clothing.

The place may have changed out of all recognition, but there are the odd things still remaining that brought home to me that our stay there was more than a rather

My final call was the docks, and I walked unchallenged through the gates, past the busy wharves and full ware-



Right: The old godown and connecting road leading to sports field at back of old Kobe House. Left: The wall of the new Kobe Post Office. Centre rear: The wall of the sports field

The Die-Hards

houses—pausing at the Mitsui and Mitsubishi premises. The Jap dockers seemed in no hurry to get the work done, and, once again, in my mind's eye, I saw the P.O.W. gangs, under the Hancho loading bales, humping rice, day in—day out. Darkie Hobson came to mind, with his ingenius means of concealing the loot about his body. I saw no docker who looked old enough to have been working there in our day, which was sad, as I wanted to ask if they remembered the "Horios" who worked alongside them.

I retraced my steps to the Oriental and drowned my memories in a pint of draught beer at the bar, half listening as the bar tender talked to a Jap business man, and picking up the occasional words—"Annon Ai"—"Hai"—"Atsui"—"Hiroshi—Na." Words that I have hardly thought of for so long, but which now felt so very familiar.

Kobe is not the city we knew. It is a bustling, thriving modern sea port. The people are friendly, and it is hard to picture them as the same little swine who made life pretty miserable for all of us, and who were responsible for the death and ill treatment of so many of our men. It is no good keeping hate alive, but it is not, I think, a bad thing, to take one's memories out from time to time, and to dust them off. To remember the comradeship and courage of those days in Kobe, and most of all those who were not lucky enough to be able to make, like me, the pilgrimage back.

KOBE HOSPITAL

In the history "The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own), 1919-52," we read on page 54 the last paragraph relating to the 1st Battalion who had fought in Hong Kong the following:

"There is little more to add. The hardships and indignities of life in a Japanese prison camp were endured with fortitude and stubborn good humour that brought a very real, if intangible, honour to The Middlesex Regiment."

In fact there is much more to add and I hope from time to time to publish stories of the behaviour of "Die-Hards" in captivity.

Since the publication of this history there have been two books published dealing with the Regiment's exploits and experiences during the war in the Far East. One, "The Fall of Hong Kong" by Tim Carew, tells us of the battle and experiences of different personnel, and the other, just published, "I Was a Hell Camp Prisoner," by Robert J. Wright (ex-Private, 816754, "B" Company, 1st Middlesex) and dedicated to the Regiment, gives one man's personal experiences.

The infamous Kobe House is given 20 pages in the last-named book and mentions the awful conditions of medical supplies, or rather the lack of them, and of the hospital there.

I feel the publication of the work of the volunteer orderlies is now due, and give an extract from the records kept by Brigadier Man and passed on to me prior to his posting to Korea. Both of these statements were written in August, 1944, whilst our men were

prisoners-of-war and it was still doubtful if the records would ever be seen by a free people.

Very often the first we know of the splendid acts of a member of the Regiment is when we read it in an obituary. Fortunately, of these seven people mentioned, three are members of the O.C.A. and will be at the reunion of the survivors of the Battle of Hong Kong on October 12 this year. Maybe there will be others.

The originals are written in a small notebook containing the *most* interesting records of the men of the 1st Battalion, and without which I fear we would have a gap in the story of our Regiment. They are published exactly as written.

Volunteer Medical Orderlies at Kobe P.O.W. Camp

No. 6201000 Cpl. F. Wookey No. 6202309 Pte. S. Mitchell-Gears No. 6201452 Pte. L. Lansdell No. 6200321 Bdsm. J. Nolan No. 6199800 L/Cpl. W. Puddifoot No. 6213478 Pte. P. Chittenden No. 6213496 Pte. A. Green

The above-named N.C.O.s and men of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), whilst prisoners-of-war at Kobe, Japan, voluntarily gave their services as Medical Orderlies in the Camp Hospital, immediately following the arrival of the 2nd Hong Kong draft in Japan.

At that time nearly all the prisoners, including these N.C.O.s and men, were suffering from exposure following the sinking of the *Lisbon Maru*.

The Camp Hospital, which had upwards of 240 patients, was in the charge of a Staff-Sergeant R.A.M.C., as there was no M.O. in the party. The majority of the patients were suffering from dysentery, some from diphtheria, and some 40-odd from various injuries. Medical supplies were all but non-existent. Consequently the responsibilities which these orderlies had to shoulder and the decisions which they had to make were out of all proportion to their rank, especially as they themselves had no medical knowledge.

The tasks they had to do, in addition to nursing, were most unpleasant and exacting. Frequent emptying of bedpans, washing of soiled blankets in cold water in mid-winter with no soap available, attending to dying men and laying out bodies—all these tasks they tackled without complaint.

Not one of these men asked to be relieved of their duties, and without exception they remained at duty until returned by the Japanese when the number of patients decreased

Their behaviour throughout was exemplary, showing a complete lack of consideration for their own health and comfort, whilst displaying unusual courage in dealing with a task of which they knew nothing more than the small amount they had been able to pick up from the Medical N.C.O.s in the camp.

Kobe, 25.8.44.

W. N. Y. Pitt, Major R.A., C. M. M. Man, Captain, Senior British Officer, Kobe Camp. Senior Officer, 1 Mx., Kobe Camp. Shortly after my arrival at Kobe P.O.W. Camp in January, 1944, I investigated the medical state of the Camp. This investigation was mainly connected with the early days, when sickness was severe and serious due to the after-effects of the sinking of the *Lisbon Maru*.

The organisation of the Camp Hospital was done by the few available medical N.C.O.s and orderlies; there being no medical officer present.

The above-mentioned N.C.O.s and men of The Middlesex Regiment volunteered their services to the hospital, at a time when help was most needed. The work done by them under such unfavourable conditions is worthy of high credit and recognition; which I feel sure will be extended to them by their Regiment after the war.

It gives me pleasure to endorse the foregoing remarks of Captain Man.

R. S. Wilson, F/Lt., R.A.F., V.R. Medical Officer.

Kobe, 26.8.44.

To the volunteers named in the record many people must owe their lives and to the conscientious way these records were made and kept during such adverse and unpleasant conditions, the Regiment owes to the officer concerned a debt.

As Curator of the Regimental Museum and keeper of historical records. I thank him.

R. W. J. S.

CHRISTMAS CARDS 1963

No new card is being printed this year, but there will be a re-print of the old 77th Guard Room Verandah

A full list of cards available is given below: Card No. Subject

1. Col. Egerton on the ramparts at Portsmouth.
2. Pioneer Sergeant, 77th Foot, Peninsular War

77th Guard Room Verandah scene.
 Single card with crest and greeting.

Single card with crest and greeting.
 Col. Egerton, Montreal (snow scene).

7. Col. Straton and charger, Crimea.

8. General Inglis.

Quantities of some cards are very limited therefore, when ordering, a second choice should be given.

All cards (except No. 4) are 1s. each or 1os. a dozen, to which must be added postage at 1d. per card up to 24, and 6d. per dozen thereafter.

Card No. 4 costs 3d., plus postage at 6d. per dozen or part of a dozen.

Cards can only be obtained from Regimental Headquarters, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex, and MUST be paid for at the time of placing the order. Cheques, postal orders, etc., should be made payable to "R.H.Q., The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)".

FREE JOURNALS

The Editor wishes to thank the following readers for their generosity in paying extra subscriptions for a year so that free copies of *The Die-Hards* can be sent to deserving Old Comrades: Miss Dorothy Longe and Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey.

FIRST CALL-UP MAN KILLED

Six Months' Service Lasted Seven Years

(By courtesy of The Daily Telegraph and Morning Post)

Mr. Rupert Alexander, 45, the first man to be called up when conscription was introduced in 1939, and his wife were killed in a car crash at Spilsby, Lines., yesterday. Their three children and two youths who were also in the car escaped.

Mr. Alexander, an Old Etonian, was born at Harrington Hall, Spilsby. He was working at a London brewery when conscription was introduced in Britain.

He became the first "militiaman" in June, 1939, and joined the The Middlesex Regiment at Mill Hill Barracks. He was given the first national service number 10001.

It was the intention that the militiamen should serve for six months. But in August Germany invaded Poland and on September 3, 1939, Britain was at war with Germany.

Mr. Alexander's Army service took him through Dunkirk to Burma. He had been wounded, mentioned in despatches and reached the rank of Major before his service ended in 1946.

"It was the longest six months I have known," he commented.

Car left road

Yesterday Mr. Alexander's car left the road on a bend, smashed through bridge railings and overturned in a water-filled dyke. He and his wife were dead when firemen reached them.

Their children, Rosemary, 15, and 11-year-old twins Catherine and Charles, and two youths who had asked for a lift, all escaped.

One of the youths, John Daubney, 17, of Great Steeping, near Spilsby, said he and his friend Peter Cheetham, 16, of East Keal, got a lift at 2 a.m. as they were walking home from a dance in Skegness. "We both knew Mr. Alexander as our homes are close to his at Hundleby, near Spilsby.

Landed upside down

"Peter and I were in the back with his two daughters. All I remember as we came up to a bend in the road was being thrown about and landing upside down.

"The boy who was in the front with his parents was thrown into the back with us. The water was coming in so I broke the back window, climbed out and pulled through the two girls. Peter pushed the boy through and came out last."

DON'T FORGET

November 29

Annual Reunion

Ist Battalion Notes

The preparations for moving the Battalion to Gibraltar and Tobruk, where we relieve 1st Battalion The Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry, have been completed and it is more appropriate that this edition should be a review of the future rather than the past. The notes submitted by Companies and Departments adequately cover the events of the last six months. With the co-operation of the hardworking Editor it is hoped to include some photographs covering the arrival of the Battlion in Gibraltar if they can be developed quickly and posted to Regimental Headquarters before the final proofs have been prepared.

The Battalion will continue to be organised with two rifle companies, ("A" and "B" Companies) of reasonable strength and these Companies will be stationed in Tobruk alternately for a period of approximately three months. "A" Company have moved to Tobruk first and they will remain there until late November. Battalion Headquarters will remain in Gibraltar but most of the members of "H.Q." Company will be attached to the Rifle Company in Tobruk during our two years' tour because there is a requirement for additional administrative personnel together with detachments from the M.T. and Signals Platoons. The training of new arrivals and also N.C.O.s continues to be the responsibility of "C" Company.

The Battalion stationed in Gibraltar will be under the command of Brigadier H. E. Boulter, D.S.O., at Fortress Headquarters. The ceremonial guard for his Excellency the Governor, General Sir Dudley Ward, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., and the more operational Guard on the Spanish Frontier are provided by the Battalion and they are known as the Convent Guard and the Four Corners Guard respectively. There is a ceremonial Guard mounting every Monday and the Ceremony of the Keys takes place approximately every six weeks. The Battalion having completed its move by August 19 mounted the first Guard on that date. As the instruments for the Band and Drums had only just arrived were excused from the Ceremonial Mounting until Monday, August 26.

There are considerable Naval and R.A.F. Forces in Gibraltar including visiting units so there is plenty of scope for inter-service competition and training with them. The details will be reported in the next edition of these notes but judging from the amount of Nuffield Trust equipment which we have taken over from the Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry we should be more than fully occupied. Briefly, this equipment will allow for rock climbing, potholing, sailing (six yachts), skin diving, water ski-ing and snow ski-ing in addition to safari kit including two landrovers.

As the training facilities in Gibraltar are limited owing to lack of space we are very fortunate in being able to keep a Company Group in Tobruk, where the facilities are boundless. The quickest method of movement between Gibraltar and Tobruk for individuals is via the United Kingdom (which gives food for thought) because there are no direct aircraft flights or naval movements between the two stations. However, we are told that there are alternative methods which, excluding space flight, will certainly be investigated in the next two years.

The major problem which we have to overcome is the lack of married accommodation. We can only accommodate 71 families which means that approximately 50 families had to be left in England. Whilst every effort is being made to improve the situation it is unfortunate that so many families have to be divided at present.

During the past three months we have been issuing invitations to many people to visit us in Gibraltar and we hope that promises to do so will be kept. Among those who will visit us in the near future is the Brigade Colonel, Col. M. T. N. Jennings, in October.

In September, the Battalion will be represented in the Army Pentathlon Championships by Capt. Lohan, Lt. Hubert, Sgt. Finnis and L/Cpl. Seatory—our very best wishes go with this team for their success. Congratulations to Sgt. Finnis on his appointment and also on his success in Munich in June when he represented the British Army against the Bavarian team and finished first. In the shooting event Finnis obtained 197 points out of a possible 200.

The past six months have included a larger number of arrivals and departures than usual because the Battalion is moving to Gibraltar. The details of these changes are all mentioned in these notes but we should like to mention in particular Major Peter Galvin and W.O.2 George Cooper who will not be serving with the Battalion again. Best wishes to Major Galvin in his appointment in the War Office and to W.O.2 Cooper in civilian life.

Amongst our many visitors we were particularly pleased to see the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General J. E. F. Willoughby, c.B.E., on Albuhera Day and at the Beating of Retreat on May 31. The Colonel met all the officers and wives in the Officers' Mess on May 15, when he kindly entertained them.

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

Having survived the rigours of the last winter in Lydd, where we were "Galvanised" into lighting fires at most ungodly hours, before any work could be done, we are now busy preparing to move to a somewhat sunnier climate (WE hope!) where it is anticipated that all and sundry will be able to bask in the Mediterranean sun.

Now we are in receipt of the latest pay rise, it is amazing to see the number of new cars cruising around camp. One wonders how many of these will reach THE FIRST FULL GUARD MOUNTING, GIBRALTAR



The first full Guard Mounting at the Convent (Governor's Residence) in Gibraltar, Monday, September 2, 1963. (Note.: H.E. The Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Gen. Sir Dudley Ward, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., can be seen standing on the balcony.)

Gibraltar. (There is always the old Ford Taunus available for towing duties.) Anyway travelling to Gibraltar overland should produce some interesting anecdotes for the next edition of *The Die-Hards*.

We welcome into Battalion Headquarters our new 2IC, Major E. A. H. Jeffcoat, newly arrived from Hong Kong and we wish him a pleasant tour in his new post. We welcome into the ranks of the "underpaid and overworked" personnel of Battalion Headquarters Pte. Walsh from "B" Company and Pte. Jones from Home Counties Brigade Depot, and say farewell to L/Cpl. Gower (who it is rumoured is emigrating to New Zealand), Ptes. Bateman and Gibbs.

Congratulations to Lt. Monypenny on attending a skin-diving course in July. He will now be able to supervise the Aqua Sports in Gibraltar where there is a large selection of equipment. However, we are rather concerned with his attack of deafness which has occurred after the course but we suspect this is being used for the maximum effect.

"H.O." COMPANY

The Battalion Rifle Meeting was held on February 26 and 27. The outline results were published in the last issue of *Thę Die-Hards* but the opportunity to have a good laugh is too good to miss—we may not have another for a further ten years—for we believe that it was in 1953 that the Company last won this meeting. There is no doubt that the two rifle companies were given a fair old thumping and should anyone doubt it just refer to page 275 of the last issue. The Battalion then went on to win the Division/District Meeting against all expectations. The following represented the Battalion (from memory): Capt. Hewson, Sgt. Lloyd, Cpl. Dowsett, Cpl. Stewart, Pte. Sutherland, L, Cpl. Stevenson and Sgt. Tarry—to those who are not mentioned our apologies.

In March a goodly portion of the Company was attached to "B" Company at Stanford P.T.A. From all reports the Drums did well and as a result L/Cpl. Dawson was promoted to Corporal. C Sgt. Garraty

D

The Die-Hards

certainly made his name much to the relief of both of us!

Some 15 soldiers from the rifle companies finally classified as signallers in March and then immediately attended a driving cadre which they all passed.

The M.T. have had their usual troubles—cadres, C.I.V. inspections, too few drivers, too much work and the odd nit who goes joy-riding once the doors have been locked.

The Signals Platoon was present at Earls Court in force. As far as we can tell the Royal Tournament appears to have gone well in spite of the non-signallers up there in their countless hordes.

In this day and age of walk-outs, moaning minnies and gutless goons it is very pleasant to receive unqualified praise from the staff on the work and bearing of four of our soldiers. Ptes. Mead and May (M.T.) and L/Cpl. Barratt and Pte. Edge (Sigs.) were detailed to attend 44 (H.C.) Division/District Arty T.A. Camp in Wales. The report states that they worked hard and cheerfully, were thoroughly reliable and were a great credit to the Battalion.

H.Q. I just failed by two points to win the Albuhera Shield from "B" Company. H.Q. II came third whilst rumour has it "A" Company are to apply for reelection! "B" Company beat us by 6—o in the Rugby final, in the Hockey we came from behind and in extra time beat them 3—2. The Albuhera Soccer final was a Company benefit. Against all known form H.Q. I beat H.Q. II by 5 goals to 1.

The full details of the Company in the Albuhera Sports Competition are as follows:

H.Q. I ... Winners cricket, hockey, Association football.

Runners-up rugby football and

H.O. II .. Winners basketball.

boxing.

Signal Platoon

There is nothing to report in these notes which is in any way connected with the Signal Platoon's normal function. Where there is no need for communications, the members of the Platoon are a tempting labour force, and the temptation has been heavily indulged. Suffice it to say that whatever the role of the Platoon, proper functioning of the Battalion depended on it!

A Cadre was finished in March and 12 signallers passed classification. The strength of the Platoon is now 30 all ranks, which is the optimum required for duties in Gibraltar and Tobruk. Following classification a driving cadre was held for all members of the Platoon who were not already qualified. As a result of this many signallers can now drive both vehicles and motor cycles, although some have been excused in the interests of Public Property!

Before the Platoon was dispersed for duties at the Royal Tournament, followed by embarkation leave, a Platoon party was held at the Royal William in Camber. Weedon was in the chair and because of this no speeches were permitted. The evening was well arranged by L/Cpl. Barratt and much enjoyed by all.

There remains some short reports on personalities. After a quick game of musical chairs, Capt. Crumley was caught in occupation and now resumes as R.S.O. Lt. Cowing will become a highly qualified A.D.C. (from a signals point of view). W.O.2 Benson has recently returned from a drill course, where he obtained an above average grading. As the voice control taught at Pirbright on drill is incompatible with the use of microphones, he will have to be moved on shortly.

Cpl. Howell leaves the Army shortly and we wish him the best of luck.

Cpl. O'Riordan was involved in a traffic accident (no. he wasn't to blame), as a result of which he enjoyed a pleasant rest in hospital and much unearned leave. L/Cpl. Lambourne is now on a R.S.I. course at Hythe and L/Cpl. Barratt is due to follow him in September. We expect both to do well. Slater recently married Edge's sister, with Edge as best man. Our congratulations to all concerned, but it is not true that a man is excused from giving evidence against his brother-in-law. The inseparable pair continue to exploit successfully any loopholes in the Army Act. Pte. Calloway took on a large dog but retired at the end of the first round with a mutilated ear. It is reported that the dog had a big advantage in height, weight and reach! We congratulate L/Cpl. Morley on his promotion, Pte. Hunt on his marriage, and Sgt. Briggs on maintaining his unruffled sanity despite forthcoming moves.

Normal communications will be resumed when we arrive in Gibraltar and Tobruk.

Quartermaster's Platoon

Since these notes were last written there have been quite a few changes on the staff.

Firstly, our old R.O.M.S., "Georgeous George" Cooper, the wrestling R.Q., who has been on the staff for nine years, is leaving us. After serving 24 years with the Regiment he thinks that it is time he moved out and let the Army look after itself. He has been studying for a number of exams, and passing them too. (Who said Regular soldiers are thick!) He is staying on, at present, to help with the hand over of the G1008 stores in preparation for the move to Gibraltar. He has been both liked and respected by everyone in the Battalion during his tour as R.O.M.S. and in his previous appointments, and his departure will be a great loss to us. We are sure that everyone who has known him will join with us in wishing him every success in civilian life. His place is being taken over by R.Q.M.S. Waite, a transfer from the Royal Sussex Regiment, who is valiantly trying to pick up the reins where R.Q.M.S. Cooper had to drop them.

We have acquired two more clerks. Pte. "Jock" Chalmers arrived on free transfer from the Orderly Room, late of the Guards Parachute Company, and the other Pte. Amor being a new boy to the Army comes to us unsullied from previous service; he is at present on a course learning Army clerking. L/Cpl. Caton is very pleased to have assistance after so long on his own, and says that it will at least ease his typing sores even if it is too late to do anything about his grey hairs.

We offer our congratulations to Cpls. French and Tuvey and L/Cpl. Williamson on their recent promotions.

Another departure from the staff is Sgt. Langford, who, after spending a long holiday on the staff, has at last been found out. He has left us to go on an E.R.E. posting to the 5th Battalion and thence to Hythe for a course on how to soldier again. We wish him success on the course and hope to see him back with us before too long. C/Sgt. Nicholson who has looked after the families in both Germany and Lydd has become accommodation stores C/Sergeant. We are not sure what the families will do without him, but we hope he will continue to collect the "Buchshees" that Sgt. Langford was justly famous for.

This has certainly been an eventful six months, as we have more congratulations to offer; these to Cfmn. Meller and Houghton, our R.E.M.E. armourers, who have both passed their upgrading courses and are now fully fledged Armourers A II.

Pte. "Polly" Pollard, the Q.M.'s batman, is seen wandering about muttering to himself, chewing his finger nails and jumping at the sound of female voices. His wedding is but a few weeks off and he knows he cannot back out now. We would like to wish him and his wife to be every happiness for the future.

Things are proceeding well for our move to Gibraltar, although Cpl. Stubbings is still snowed-under with items of tropical clothing and kit. He has, however, managed to farm some of his worries out to the Company C.Q.M.S.s, and so is far more cheerful than, perhaps, he would otherwise have been.

All things considered we think that the move to Gibraltar will be completed without too many hitches, especially as the Q.M., Capt. Donovan, seems to spend most of his time these days, drafting directives to the various Departments in the Battalion, so there should be nobody who is unsure as to how things are done, in regard to stores matters, that is.

M.T. Platoon

During the last six months the Platoon has been working under pressure at the following tasks: Cadet training at Stanford P.T.A., M.T. driving cadres and finally preparing vehicles for classification and return to Ordnance before leaving the "sunny shores" of the United Kingdom for service in Gibraltar.

Cpl. Baxter, L/Cpls. Harris, Butler, McCann, Ptes. Beall, McNab, Vass, Fenton, Flowerdew, Blythe, Harding, May and Cfmn. Rayner were attached to "A' Company under the command of C/Sgt. Power from the end of March until early May, to assist with the annual camp training of the Cadet Force Eastern Command. It was during this period that C/Sgt. Power received many kind remarks from officers of other units on the standard of driving, punctuality and cheerfulness during long hours of driving by the M.T. drivers. Needless to say, many large hats are now in demand.

There has been a continuous run of Cadres since January to May, and in all, over 40 soldiers have been trained, and many of them no doubt will be called upon as Company drivers in Gibraltar. Credit for the high

standard of passes is due to the instruction of Cpl. Dowsett and L/Cpl. Young on loan from the Signal Platoon, L/Cpl. Croskell, Pts. Lovegrove, Smith (29), Jones (86) and Glazier. By now most of them have recovered from their nervous disorders.

L/Cpl. Cleasby has made a name for himself in training seven members of the Signal Platoon as D.R.s, at the end of which only one motor-cycle was serviceable.

While most of the Battalion were enjoying a short stay in London on duty at the Royal Tournament and being given E.D. pay at the same time, the M.T. have sustained yet another C.I.V. inspection. This C.I.V., like all the others, meant longer hours, evening work, lost weekends and shorter tempers, but in the end all was justified and the unit obtained a good result.

We look forward to returning the vehicles to various Ordnance Depots all over the U.K. and getting away for a spot of leave before leaving for Gibraltar in August.

The Platoon has lost the services of the following since the last Journal notes: Cpl. Brennan, Ptes. Godfrey and Clark on Regular Release, L/Cpl. Rappoport and Cfmn. Speed. Now the former has left the M.T.O. can now command the M.T. Platoon!

Newcomers to the Platoon are W.O.2 "Johnny" Moyse from "C" Company who joined in May, Ptes. Jennings and Mead from "B" Company and Cpl. McIntosh, L/Cpl. Fury, Cfmn. Ryan, Fairbrother and Pearson, all R.E.M.E. Sgt. Peacock's section is now, for the first time in many months, up to full strength. We wish them all a pleasant stay.

The Band

At the time of writing we are all in the throes of preparing for Gibraltar. It has become downright dangerous hereabouts with nails, hammerheads, stray Bandsmen and sundry articles all airborne at the same

We have just finished a very hectic season and if I can think between hammer blows and bad language (missed it again !), I will try and tackle things chronologically.

Congratulations to Sgt. Alec Torrie and L/Cpl. Pug French who both put up a fine performance playing for the Battalion basket ball teams in the Army U.K. final. The match took place against the R.E.M.E. Depot at Arborfield and though we were beaten 65—49 Sgt. Torrie scored 8 baskets (16 points), and L/Cpl. French 4 baskets (8 points).

Sgt. Torrie has really gone to town this summer. He became the father of a fine baby boy during the early hours of June 14 ("Can't you stop that damn phone ringing!") while we were at Bournemouth and managed to pass his A.I. Music trade test on July 1. Hearty congratulations on both counts.

We have had some promotions recently. Cpl. Torrie has joined the Sergeants' Mess. Cpl. Fatty Wornes has finally got his substantive rank, L/Cpl. Ivan Routledge has been promoted Corporal, Bdsm. Joe Chester and Whip Green reached the dizzy heights of Lance-Corporal.

The Band held a dinner and dance on March 29, at the Royal William Hotel in Camber. This proved to be a huge success and thanks to the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes, who very kindly lent us their silver, the dinner table looked magnificent. The dinner was also Bdsm. Nobby Clark's stag party, as he got married the following day. It amazes all of us how he ever made it. I still feel he must have been carried to the church, in spite of his assurances to the contrary. We wish Nobby and his wife every happiness for the future. The Band presented him with a coffee percolator, which apparently surprised the Band more than Nobby Clark! The Bandmanster's wife, Mrs. McShane, received a large bouquet of flowers and was visibly moved by her husband who wanted to know what he was going to receive (another bottle of brandy?).

Our tour opened with the Easter week at Bridlington in Yorkshire. There were many comments when it was discovered that Scarborough, where we were staying, was 20 miles from Bridlington where we were playing.

Do you remember the night walkers? Sore feet was all they cared about.

For the first time in memory the dance section played for an old tyme ball at the Spa Royal Hall. Quite an experience!

"Too fast," said some.

"Too slow," said others.

"Rude remark," said someone! Quite an experience! Following the Bridlington Show we moved to Canterbury and joined forces with the Royal Fusiliers and Junior Bandsmen and Drummers of the Home Counties Brigade Depot. We rehearsed there for the performance at Wembley Stadium where we played for the International Youth Football Match between England and Northern Ireland. Most of us agreed on the fact that we have never seen a better football match.

The second match was the schoolboy International between England and Wales. Again, this was a fine game. As one person remarked, "We get paid as well?"

The B.B.C. TV descended upon us on April 29. We worked for five and a half hours during constant rain, but finally got the thing done. When we saw the results on "Tunes of Glory" described by Sir Brian Horrocks, we appeared for three minutes! Oh! hard hearted B.B.C.! Whatever happened to our lovely fanfare?

Our next public performance was the Albuhera Day Parade which was held on Horse Guards Parade on the 12th. It was a fine display by the Old Comrades, who received a new standard. Fifteen of the T.A. Band came along to swell our ranks, and the Drum-Major finished the day with two maces, having started with none! After the parade we renewed many aquaintanships, including one member who had joined as a Bandsman in 1896.

The inspection by the Commandant and Director of Music from Kneller Hall took place on May 23. Everybody worked like fury and when the day came we were in some semblance of Musical Order. We managed to produce several types of bands, interlaced by solos by Bdsm. David Scarfe (who raised the first smile of the day on either side) and finished with two songs by the male voice choir.

Apart from the very good report we received, we are now known as the Brothers Grim!

As soon as the inspection was finished we started to rehearse for the Beating of Retreat which took place in the camp on May 31. Most comments were favourable and, on the strength of one piece the Band played, the Vicar of Lydd Church invited us to give a concert in the Church itself.

However, on the following day, June 1, we left for Bournemouth. Here we played two programmes each day, morning and afternoon. We heard about a butcher but paid 'little attention until we heard that Bdsm. Reginald McNaughton had been taught to play golf by the Butcher and Co.!

At Bournemouth, one of L/Cpl. Pug French's alto solos, "Skeleton Keys," became very popular. The Band knew it as "Starvation Rag" and it was a popular request on quite a few occasions.

After a fortnight at Bournemouth, we travelled to Lincoln to play at the Lincoln Agricultural show on June 19 and 20. The R.A.F. Camp at Scampton was kind enough to accommodate us. It had everything from a cocktail bar to a ball room and the hospitality we received was overwhelming. Most of us were very wary of visiting the airfield itself as this was patrolled by enormous police dogs with very large R.A.F. Policemen in tow!

We returned from Lincoln and went to Feltham on June 22 to take part in a fete on behalf of the N.S.P.C.C. We have since heard that they managed to raise \pounds 300 and we were very glad that we were able to help in this very worthy cause.

The following day, the 23rd, we were engaged to play at Folkestone for a week supposedly, on the Leas Cliff Bandstand. As the weather was so bad, however, we found ourselves wandering from venue to venue. First the Leas Cliff Hall on the stage, then the Marine Pavilion, then the Leas Cliff Hall off the stage, and one day we actually played on the Bandstand. Quite a few of the Band wanted lifebelts, insisting that the gale that was blowing at the time didn't seem content to take the music and stands along with it.

During this week we also took part in the Eastbourne Carnival with the Sussex Regiment as massed bands. The Hastings Carnival took place on July 3. What a surprise! We marched for six miles! I can hear the feet throbbing yet.

On July 6, we went to Wood Green but rain stopped play. However, we did meet Mr. Mayor (who was a lady) and enjoyed the refreshments provided. The following day we went to Clacton-on-Sea where our final two concerts in England were given. We had a most appreciative audience which certainly made the whole thing worthwhile.

We offer our sincere condolences to Bdsm. "Flogger" Hull, who arrived from Canterbury in May, and to his family on their recent bereavement. We look forward to renewing our acquaintance with L/Cpl. R. Cox who has been sick for a year. That will teach him to clean his kit!

Bdsm. Dave Ashby and L/Cpl. Whip Green leave us shortly for civilian life. We are very sorry to see them go and hope they do well in the future.

Bdsm. Johnson and Roberts are off to Kneller Hall



"H.Q." COMPANY SHOOTING TEAM, 1963

Back row (left to right): L|Cpl. Watts, L|Cpl. Grant, L|Cpl. Stevenson, Pte. Hatch, Cpl. Stewart

Middle row (left to right): Pte. Brodie, Cpl. Dawson, Cpl. Stopp, Sgt. Davies, Pte. Walsh, Cpl. Howell, L|Cpl. Berry

Middle row (left to right): Sgt. Lloyd, C.S.M. Cakebread, Capt. J. M. Hewson, M.C., Major B. K. Clayden, Sgt. Briggs,

Sgt. Tarry, Pte. Sutherland

for a year to have some right notes chiselled in. We hope they both scoop the pool on Prize Giving Day.

Cpl. Beano Rose finally got into the act by taking a band into the Officers' Mess, where we understand he did very well. Congratulations. L/Cpl. Joe Chester took a band the same night into the Sergeants' Mess to play for R.Q.M.S. Cooper's farewell dinner, where he also did well and should certainly now be ready to take his AI.

We hear that Bdsm. Dusty Binns is getting engaged. Cpl. Bill Wornes is having a hectic time as he expects to be a father shortly. Congratulations to ex-C/Sgt. Bert Probert who has now become solo cornet of the Canadian Guards.

Finally we offer our regrets that Bdsm. Speedy McNaughton couldn't fiddle his way out of the Army. P.S.—Guess who we think of when we play the "Westminster Waltz"?

Corps of Drums

"There was a sound of revelry by night." The Corps of Drums was holding a party in February and practically the whole Battalion was enjoying it. It was to mark an important event in our affairs, for Drum-Major Lewis and Lt. Bulloch were leaving us. Drum-Major Lewis, who served with the Corps of Drums for nine years, has gone to the Junior Soldiers' Wing at Canterbury armed with our affection and graitude. However, he will need more than that to survive the attentions of 100 boys. He may have thought that we were exasperating at times but we wonder what he thinks now? Anyway, Drum-Major Howells who has taken over came from the Junior Soldiers' Wing at Canterbury and does not seem to have suffered too greatly in their hands. We had hoped for someone tall, dark and handsome, but no, he is exactly the same size and shape as his predecessor.

Drum-Major Lewis was heard to remark that Lt. Bulloch had been in charge of the Corps of Drums for longer than any other officer he could remember. We don't know quite what to infer from that remark. Lt. Bulloch has now been sent off to Jamaica and perhaps we should draw our conclusions from that. In his place we now have Lt. Monypenny.

During March the Corps of Drums left the Drum-Majors fighting out their handover, formed ourselves into two fighting sections and joined "B" Company for three weeks practical training at Stanford in Norfolk. For the first time in our memory we didn't win the intersection fire and movement competition but that was because it was cancelled.

Our first musical engagement was at Wembley on the occasion of the England v. Ireland Youth International in front of 90,000 voluble schoolboys, and the second was at Wembley again—this time, England v. Wales, We had the Junior Drummers from Canterbury with us and we all enjoyed seeing the two Drum-Majors gloomily witnessing Wales' defeat by England.

On April 29, amid pouring rain, we were filmed by B.B.C. Television for Lt.-General Horrocks' programme "Tunes of Glory," marching round Coronation Square. L/Cpl. "Butts" Butler and Drm. Sylvester found their own pre-recorded drumming rather difficult to mime to. None of the rest of us could understand why they should want to take close-ups of the side drummers but Cpl. "The Shirt" Dawson thought he looked especially handsome when he saw the programme. Again we were pleased to have with us the Junior Drummers.

We joined forces with the Band of the 5th Battalion for the Albuhera Parade on Horse Guards on May 12. The Drum-Major has a story he likes to tell about that day so we won't steal his thunder by repeating it

On May 31 we finally had an engagement without the assistance of either Junior Drummers or Territorials. The Beating of Retreat at Lydd. It went well although we noticed that English spectators do not vent their enthusiasm as Greek or German crowds do.

Since then we have been keeping ourselves in the public eye at a series of carnivals, fetes, club days and Road Safety Week tattoos at Lydd, Uxbridge, Twickenham, Eastbourne and Hastings. On the way back from Eastbourne we stopped for coffee. A Ritz-style doorman held open the door for us dressed in reds and looking as though he expected Ritz-style tips for doing so. It was our own "Geordie." We suspect he was doing it because it was the day before pay day; and for the same reason he was unlucky.

On May 28 we held the Commanding Officers' and Adjutants' Bugle Competition. The title of Commanding Officers' Bugler had been vacant since Drm. Benton had deserted us for the less energetic life of the Band. It is now filled by Drm. Mears, and Drm. Blake is the Adjutant's Bugler. Well done, you two. Enjoy it while you may because we will be having it off you next time.

Drms. "Butts" Butler and "I'm in charge of the stores" Mason are now Lance-Corporals which shows that anyone can do it if they try, and Lance-Corporal "The Shirt" Dawson is a full Corporal, which must have cost him a bit too.

Drms. "The Heat" Chapman and "The Shank" Ranger have joined the Corps of Drums from Canterbury in time to help us pack for Gibraltar. Talking of Gibraltar the Corps of Drums has adopted a new motto for the new post, "Paraya Mi Amigo."

Finally we congratulate L/Cpl. and Mrs. Watts on the birth of their daughter.

"A" COMPANY

Eastern Command Cadet Leadership Course, March 29 to May 3, 1963

In April, Eastern Command held their Annual Cadet Leadership Course at West Tofts Camp, Stanford P.T.A. in Norfolk: "A" Company together with small elements from "H.Q." Company were given the task of the entire administration of this camp. In addition, the Company received the assistance of an A.C.C. Warrant Officer, various R.E.M.E. craftsmen, A.P.T.C. staff and two R.A.M.C. sergeants,

Thus, C.S.M. Walters had an "Empire" including a large cross-section of the Army with the possible exception of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps—individuals were plotted on the Company distribution board, so that no one could move without his knowing about it. The camp responsibilities were allotted within the Platoons and every member of the Company was involved in some small way with the running of the administrative side of the course.

Earls Court-Royal Tournament

We had two officers and 70 soldiers at Earls Court for this year's Royal Tournament. Tasks for the Company varied from ushers to messing staff and arena door controllers to ticket sellers. After some 34 performances even the most interesting of jobs began to lose some of its appeal. Working "show business hours" was a tiring job at first but one soon got into the habit. These administrative commitments lacked the glamour enjoyed by units providing displays, but were equally necessary to ensure the tournament is able to raise the thousands of pounds it does annually for Service charities.

Latter Days at Lydd

Since early June, despite the vigorous and exacting duties of Earls Court, the Company has been "tied up" preparing for the move to Gibraltar and Tobruk. Boxes are being painted and packed, while lists appear from every direction describing exactly where each item of kit should or should not go. C.Q.M.S. Smith has been juggling with weights, trying to work out how it is possible to put 85 lb. of kit into a 66-lb. load. As you read these notes the Company will have arrived in Tobruk and unpacked.

Departure of Major Carter

On Albuhera Day Major K. J. Carter handed over "A" Company to Major B. A. M. Pielow, recently returned from two years on the staff in Aden. Major Carter has commanded the Company since the beginning of June, 1962, and he has now moved to the Home Counties Brigade Depot as D.A.A.G. Just before he left he helped us to field a useful hockey side in the Albuhera competition, but in spite of his invaluable hockey expertise we didn't win! All of us in "A" Company wish him and Mrs. Carter the very best of luck at Canterbury. We hope they manage to camp their way across Europe to see us in Gibraltar.

News of Individuals

Since the last issue the following changes have taken place within the Company:

Arrivals

Capt. Durtnell from "H.Q." Company (P.R.I.) is now 2IC. Lt. Packham from his courses at Hythe and Warminster. Cpl. Kerr from the Parachute Brigade, Cpl. Pryor from recruiting and Platoon weapons course at Hythe, Cpl. Phillips from Queen's Own Buffs and lately attached to the Brigade Depot at Canterbury, Pte. McDaid from a tour in the Signal Platoon, Pte. McMinn from the Army Operational Research group where he has been testing new boots and socks and other equipment for the Army, and Cpl. Holland from training with the Army Langlauf Biathlon team in Norway. He took part in local races and is now the Army first reserve.

Departures

Lt. Hubert is temporarily away with the Battalion Pentathlon team, Cpl. White to Brigade Depot, Canterbury, as a small arms instructor, Lt. Freeborn is recruiting in London, Cpl. Willis is on a 3-in. Mortar course at Netheravon, Pte. Ziekonopasser on a P.T. course at Aldershot.

Cpl. Ward has successfully completed an anti-tank gun course at Netheravon, Pte. Tofts has done the water duties course at Ash Vale, Aldershot, where Ptes. Butler and Canty did the anti-malarial course. Ptes. Maguire and Barnes are now experts at field hygiene.

Congratulations

To L/Cpls. Peak, Fensom, Harmer, Thurlow, McLardy and Bulter on their promotion. To Sgt. Seager and Cpl. Ward on their marriages recently at Ashford.

No. 1 Platoon

The Platoon left Lydd for Stanford P.T.A. in February with many new faces. L/Cpl. Aylward, Savage, Harris (86 and 32), Robertson, Smyth, Weaver, Toohey, Grevatt, Wilson and Knight all arrived in the Platoon at this time. Despite the change in personalities the Platoon under Lt. Freeborn acquitted itself well on training. On one memorable occasion Sgt. Raffael, Tofts and Toohey carred out a highly successful commando-type raid on a bridge occupied by the late Battalion 2IC. Bravely enduring the cold water these three swam under the bridge and physically took it under the very nose of Major Galvin!

Following Company training, the Platoon was involved in the administrative arrangements for the Stanford Cadet Camp. The Platoon was divided during this period and carried out general duties in the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes and the cookhouse.

After a short period back in Lydd the Platoon moved to Earls Court and the Royal Tournament where it was afforded a grand stand view of a most entertaining military spectacle. Acting as ushers was rather tedious work but this was relieved somewhat by having the bright lights of London on our doorstep.

Back at Lydd once more the work of packing up for the move to Tobruk was completed in good time before the Platoon went on leave for the whole of July, eagerly looking forward to the excellent training opportunities afforded by the Libyan Desert!

No. 2 Platoon

In early March with snow all over the ground we also set off for Stanford P.T.A. There we were to carry out section and then Platoon field firing and dry training. The weather as a whole was shocking—both cold and wet in the later stages of the month—but we carried on regardless.

The Platoon training often took the form of inter-Platoon patrolling—here some excellent night movement was shown. On one occasion Cpl. Kerr and his section ambushed and put to rout some Fantasians so successfully that they not only lost their way to our camp but, judging by the time they arrived back, to their own camp as well.

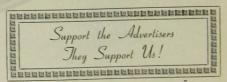
At last the time arrived to go back to Lydd, but despite the frost and rain, a good spirit had been built up and even Pte. Robinson was sorry to leave Stanford. However, his sorrow was short lived as one week later we found ourselves back at Stanford P.T.A., this time to help run the Cadet Leadership course. Here the Platoon breakdown was almost completely lost, with the Platoon Commander in charge of some cadets, Sgt. Turner was running the Sergeants' Mess and Cpl. Kerr was acting as Ration Corporal. Nevertheless, with a few excursions to Norwich and nearer home to Lynford Hall we all managed to keep our spirits up while doing what was hard and sometimes apparently unrewarding. After this the Company had five days' leave in lieu of Easter; this respite was short lived and when we arrived back we were greeted by a number of kit checks and deficiency parades. We managed during this time to play some inter-Company and inter-Platoon cricket. Although the Company played hard it was dogged by bad luck and was rather unsuccessful. But No. 2 Platoon on the other hand in our own Company Platoon cricket proved to be as successful a cricket team as Cassius Clay is a boxer.

The next move we found followed fairly quickly; this was a move to London to act as ushers and messing staff at the Royal Tournament.

Now everyone looks forward to a month's leave with much anticipation and then the flight to Tobruk.

New and Old Faces

Since the last edition we have lost: Cpl. Macfarlane to the Regimental Police, L/Cpl. King on Medical Discharge, Pte. Jones and Pte. Desmond. We have gained: Cpl. Kerr, Cpl. Phillips and L/Cpl. McLardy.



"B" COMPANY

During March, in wintry conditions, the Company carried out Section and Platoon exercises at Stanford practical training area. Although conditions were unpleasant it was a most worth-while period, particularly so as it proved to be the last time the Company was able to get out all together for training in England.

At the end of April we gave a display of the Platoon in attack at Wembley Stadium before the 50,000 crowd watching the England-Wales Schoolboy International. This very dashing and noisy battle proved very successful and certainly gave us a sense of achievement as it was so enthusiastically received. Props from the film "Lawrence of Arabia" provided the enemy with suitable foreign and well fitting uniforms—perhaps too well fitting for Pte. Acton who was seen later sitting on a floor sweating freely after half an hour's unsuccessful efforts to remove his jackboots. We were very grateful to the 5th Battalion for allowing us to base ourselves at Edgware for the period of the demonstration.

Wembley's roar marked the end of Capt. Lohan's command after nine months in the chair. He is at present training for the Army modern pentathlon (together with L/Cpl. Seatory) and is going to the Hong Kong Regiment later in the year. We welcome Major Pepperall from the Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment who has taken over in his place, and also 2/Lt. Hawkins who joined from Sandhurst. We were sorry to lose C.S.M. Jessup in April and wish him luck at Canterbury. C.S.M. Steward moved across from the W.T. Wing to take his place.



Pte. Cannon (" B" Company)

May was an uneventful month except for the Mortar Section who carried out the troop trials of the Carl Gustav anti-tank gun at Lydd and on Salisbury Plain. There was no rush to find out the answer to one question which asked how far it was possible for a man to carry the gun.

The Company is proud to have won the Albuhera Shield for sport for the third year running which we are convinced (without too much research) creates a precedent and entitles us to retain the shield permanently. The final events for the shield were rugger and hockey, in both of which we came second. No. 8 Platoon reached the final of the inter-Platoon basket ball but have yet to play the Signals Platoon to decide the winner.

During June the whole Company was engaged in either ushering or on fatigues at the Royal Tournament. Although compensations could be found if they were looked for hard enough, Pte. Dowdell summed up everyone's feelings perfectly when he told the Commanding Officer that, although he would never have thought he could say it, he was actually looking forward to getting back to Lydd.

Many changes have taken place in the Company but it is good to have still many of the hard core from Germany and Greece who will be with us when we go abroad again shortly. There is a certain amount of speculation how those going by road will make out in the Gibraltar stakes. The car carrying the R.S.M. and C.S.M. Steward must start as a favourite as it carries enough weight (figuratively) to deal with the average Spanish policeman.

"C" COMPANY

Apart from embarkation leave and preparation for the move to Gibraltar the last activity in which the Company was involved in England was "administrative duties" at the Royal Tournament. Training finished at the beginning of June and all further intakes from the Brigade Depot were held over for continuation training in Gibraltar.

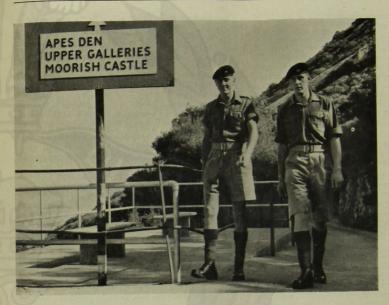
Continuation Training

The continuation training course has aimed at an eight-weeks' programme in which the first two weeks concentrate on physical fitness; the next five deal with detailed instruction on weapons, drill and tactics. The last week provides practical instruction in the field. In practice this has been difficult to achieve particularly as the date of embarkation drew near.

Since the last notes the bulk of Intake No. 5 (18 strong) and No. 7 (ten strong) passed on to "A" Company, whilst Intakes No. 6 (12 strong) and No. 8 (12 strong) bolstered up "B" Company in time for the Royal Tournament.

Non-Commissioned Officers' Cadre (" The Training Officer's Lament")

The N.C.O.s' cadre assembled, seven strong, on April 8, but it appeared in danger of disintegrating and finally only four got home past the post. Pte. Jones did extremely well to achieve a B Grading.



Left: Pte. Reppetti. Right: Pte. Steele "B" Company

Personalities In

Lt. Peter Hubert has been hiding in "C" Company whilst he trains for the Battalion Pentathlon team; hiding to such good effect that even when we had cleared every room in the Company ready for Gibraltar, there was still no trace of him. It was only when he put his horse on the ration strength of "C" Company that we realised he was still around. If found please return to "C" Company Office.

W.O.2 George Simmons is also doing penance with Training Company. This is a question of making the punishment fit the crime, for George until recently was turning out recruits at the Brigade Depot. He appeared in Training Company to find all his old "skeletons" rattling in our cupboards. This posed him quite a problem that he rapidly disappeared on an Assault Pioneers Warrant Officers' Course at Gillingham. We can only assume he will return loaded with dynamite to solve his problem.

Sgt. Dave Davies having looked after the requirements of training Company from the distant bastille of Battalion H.Q. is busily trying to tell himself (as "C" Weapon Training Sergeant) that he can't have any more ammunition.

This is a much happier situation than telling himself he can have, when he hasn't got it.

Cpl. Ronald Shearing has just joined us now that "C" Company has annexed the sports store. His biggest problem will be repairing the aqualung gear after one of "Hat's" demonstrations.

Pte. John Haywood has joined the Company as projectionist and O.C.'s batman. He did the cinema course to project the Company Commander's cine films for him. Pte. Brian Harper has also arrived as the new ammunition storeman. He therefore becomes an expendable.

OFFICERS' MESS

In our last notes we made mention of buying crested glassware and a dinner service for the Mess. Progress has been made. The glassware has been ordered and the final sample of the dinner service approved. Without counting chickens it looks as though the Mess, after some 20 years, will at long last be able to banish E.II.R. and other such strange objects.

We welcomed the Colonel of the Regiment to the Mess on Albuhera Day when the Warrant Officers and Sergeants paid their customary pre-lunch visit, and the Warrant Officers remained for cold buffet lunch. We were very pleased to see Lt.-Col. Norman Clayden, Majors Peter Bellers and Johnny Moore (from Edinburgh), Capt. Frank Waldron, Lts. George Goring and John Lofting for dinner in the evening, and we celebrated Norman Clayden's promotion.

On May 31, we held a cocktail party after a Beating of Retreat, when some 150 assorted souls crowded into the Mess. We were very pleased to see the Colonel of the Regiment again and his family. It is still not certain whether this party was a "welcome" or "farewell" to Lydd—perhaps both. It is interesting to note that out 202 guests invited, 110 came, 60 declined and some

32 either did not receive their invitations or ran out of ink—we live in strange times.

After six or so years our excellent Sgt. Leat departs to London to replace Sgt. DaCosta as a special recruiter. He has put a tremendous amount of effort into his appointment over the years and a great deal of the credit for the smooth running of the Mess must go to him. Many of us consider, with justification, that Sgt. Leat has been one of the best Mess Sergeants the Battalion has had since the war and that includes the 2nd Battalion too! As a very small token of our appreciation he was presented with a silver cigarette box shortly before he left.

Sgt. Willis, recently a P.S.I. with 5 MX, takes over from Leat. His task will not be easy but let us all hope his tour will be a happy and satisfying one.

Finally a word or two about Harry Lyons. Apart from being our food member these past nine months he has carried out innumerable tasks over and above his appointment of Unit Education Officer. The Mess will not be the same without him. His work in the Mess has been quite outstanding and if others worked half as well and hard the P.M.C.'s duties would be less exacting.

SERGEANTS' MESS

By the time this article is published, we expect to be enjoying the tail end of the summer in Gibraltar, or the summer in Tobruk in the case of some half-dozen members. Meanwhile the barons of the road party continue their preparations for their respective journeys, ably assisted by W.O.2 Waite, whose total "payload" is reputed to contain maps and general information on the route from Ostend to Gib.

The past two or three months have been a somewhat difficult time as regards the Sergeants' Mess, inasmuch as we have seldom had a full membership here at Lydd. Both our "A" and "B" Companies (plus the usual sprinkling of H.Q.) have spent two periods away, at Stanford P.T.A. and again on Royal Tournament duties in London. In addition, we now have the dreaded 28 days' embarkation leave upon us, and the few members left in camp can be seen strutting to and fro in full mufti—W.O.2 Walters formed a most successful Company Sergeants' Mess whilst at Stanford and, it appears, had a much larger membership than did the main Mess at the time.

For these reasons, we have not only been socially restricted within our own Mess, but have regretably been unable to accept the hospitality offered to us at functions by other messes—namely the 1st Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers at Gravesend, the R.A.M.C. at Shorncliffe, the 1st Parachute Regiment at Aldershot and the 1st Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment at Shorncliffe. All of which would have no doubt proved most enjoyable occasions.

However, in great consolation, we have managed to fit in two very successful evenings' entertainment. The first in early April when the Corporals were our hosts at a games evening. The second, and certainly the highlight of our stay at Lydd, being the Mess Albuhera and Farewell Ball which was held in the gymnasium on May 18. The success of the occasion was largely due to the efforts of W.O.2 Tom Steward and his most efficient committee who somehow transformed the drab appearance of the gymnasium into the cheerful atmosphere of a Continental-style beer garden and ballroom. W.O.2 Johny Medlock is once again to be commended on his ability to produce a buffet of quantity and quality in true Medlock style, so familiar to many and much appreciated by all. Our only regret is that this might well be the last buffet that John might prepare for us. We live in hopes that this might not be so.

We were very pleased indeed to welcome so many members of other messes to the Albuhera Ball, particularly our 5th Battalion who were so well represented. In addition we were extremely pleased to see such gentry as Slim Bartle, Ernie Colebeck, Basil LeMatre, George Markham, Bill Bailey and numerous others worthy of mention had the writers mind not become so clouded that evening—who knows when we might see these gentlemen again? After all, they did visit us in

Albuhera Day itself was celebrated in the traditional manner by a visit to the Officers' Mess at mid-day and the drinking of the silent toast in the Sergeants' Mess during the evening. We were pleased to have with us on this memorable day Sgt. Bill Landreth who was then passing through the Depot from Hong Kong to B.A.O.R.

Congratulations to Sgt. Shave on his recent marriage and a hearty welcome to Mrs. Shave to the Mess. We trust she will issue the necessary pass to hubby as and when required?

Congratulations were about to be offered to C/Sgt. and Mrs. Clements at the conclusion of Clem's embarkation leave, but alas, it was pure rumour yet again. Meanwhile the rumour monger himself, having resolved to divorce himself from the smoking habit as soon as he had a steam iron, can now be seen around camp with both creases in his trousers and a cigarette in hand—a Colour-Sergeant, but not Will Power.

The month of June saw the R.S.M. away to Wales for his leave—the first 28 clear days he has been able to find in the last 12 months—only to find he was required to make the 600 miles return journey to attend as a witness at a Court Martial on the tenth day, and still smiling. Bad luck, sir!

Finally as we prepared in earnest for our forth-coming move to Gibraltar, we had a sad farewell to say—to W.O.2 (R.Q.M.S.) George (Aubrey) Cooper. A farewell which cannot be substantially put into words when considering the long, outstanding service and membership that George has given to the Mess and its members (officially and unofficially). On July 5, therefore, we made our farewells by dining him out at a Mess dinner in his honour, a gesture we feel George much appreciated. Meanwhile, on behalf of all members, both past and present, we would like to take this opportunity of wishing George success in his forth-coming examinations and all good fortune to both him and his wife Audrey in civilian life and the future.

CORPORALS' MESS

Since the last edition went to press we have tried to live up the last committee's motto, "Have as many functions while the funds last." Cpl. Flynn and his committee retired from the scene after a deal of hard work. A new committee led by Cpl. Willis has now taken the reins.

Because of training at Stanford our functions have been restricted. We paid a return visit to the Sergeants' Mess for a games evening and this time we had the opportunity to run the show. When we arrived we found all the members of the Sergeants' Mess standing at the bar in anticipation. The evening soon got under way and after many discreet moves on the scoreboard we allowed the Sergeants to win the match. We must congratulate Cpl. Anderson for laying on an excellent buffet for us.

The festivities of Albuhera Day were celebrated in grand style. Cpl. Shearing led community singing at lunch time even if he was slightly out of tune, Cpl. Clarke arrived hot foot from the football pitch dressed in ladies clothing and we understand that he had to make an emergency exit from the dining hall. In the evening we held a dance and at one particular stage it seemed as though the Corporals were outnumbered by the ladies, at least those members not professing to dance were soon "cutting a rug" with gusto. In fact the dance was very enjoyable.

During the last few months we have had to say fare-well to Cpls. Gibb and Simpson and L/Cpl. Boosey who now go to the rigours of civilian life; to Cpl. Bartlett who has now moved on to Canterbury on the permanent staff of the Depot and Cpl. Shave on his promotion to Sergeant. We congratulate Cpls. Dawson, French, and L/Cpls. Bassett, Jones, Thurlow, Peak, Butler and Mason on their promotions. Our congratulations also go to L/Cpl. Hedges on the birth of a son and to L/Cpl. Watts on the birth of a daughter.

We take this opportunity of welcoming Cpl. Philips from the Depot and Cpl. Tampin from the Parachute Brigade—we hope that their stay with us will be a pleasant one. After embarkation leave we look forward to the sunshine of Tobruk and Gibraltar.

SPORTS

With the Battalion having large detachments at Stanford and subsequently at the Royal Tournament followed by embarkation leave the sporting activities during the last six months have been considerably restricted. However, we did manage to complete the Albuhera Shield competition which was very important because this will be the last time for at least two years, as the Battalion is split between Gibraltar and Tobruk.

Albuhera Shield, 1962-63

Inter-Company competitions took place throughout the year at Lydd with the final matches taking place during the first two weeks in May, and the climax on Albuhera Day. The Colonel of the Regiment presented the trophies on Albuhera Day.

RESULTS

Cricket: Winners, H.Q. I; Runners-up, "B" Company.

Boxing: Winners, "B" Company; Runners-up, H.O. I.

Soccer: Winners, H.Q. II; Runners-up, H.Q. I. Basketball: Winners, H.Q. II; Runners-up, "A"

Rugby: Winners, "B" Company; Runners-up, H.Q. I. Hockey: Winners, H.Q. I; Runners-up, "B" Company.

Cross Country: Winners, "B" Company; Runners-up, "A" Company.

Basketball

The last notes were written on an upsurge of success. Regrettably the jubilation was short lived. On March 23, we played the U.K. finals at Aldershot and lost to Depot R.E.M.E., 49—67. No one can say we were unlucky. Although everyone played as hard and as well as could be hoped, we were outclassed by a very good team indeed. Further the one big weakness we could never overcome in training—the low average height of the team—was to prove a decisive disadvantage. It is perhaps a small comfort to remind ourselves that we lost to a packed team, and that from the numbers available in the Battalion we reached a very high standard.

The remainder of the season rather tended to "fizzle out." The local Civilian League, which we had high hopes of winning, disintegrated into a rubble of cancelled fixtures. Once out of the Army Championships there were no further Army games.

However, at the end of the season the Commanding Officer agreed most generously to an "evening out" for those who had taken part in the Championships. This was a fitting end to the most successful season we

We look forward to some good games in Gibraltar, where there should be plenty of opportunity to maintain our standard of play.

Shooting

Whilst the greater part of the Battalion was at Stanford P.T.A. or on block leave, 24 all ranks were practising at Lydd for the Home Counties Division/District Rifle Meeting which took place at Hythe on April 19.

Albuhera Shield Points

				Albunera S	meia 1 oin	113				
Compar	ıv		Hockey	Cricket	Rugby	Cross Country	Soccer	Basket- ball	Boxing	Total
"B" Company			 6	6	8	8	4	4	0	44
			Q	8	6	4	6	2	6	40
H.Q. I						2	8	8	4	30
H.Q. II			 2	2	4	-	2	6	2	26
"A" Company			 4	4	2	0	-			TT 0 T
Winners of the Albuh	ora S	Shield	" B " Cor	mpany		Runners	s-up	**		H.Q. I

The Major Units Championships was decided on a points system in five events. The first match to be shot was the rifle match between teams of eight. Our team of Capt. Hewson, Lt. Pitman, Sgt. Tarry, Cpl. Burrows, Cpl. Fisher, L/Cpl. Peak, Pte. Gapp and Pte. Mallon shot only averagely well but well enough to come second to the Royal Sussex.

Meanwhile on the S.M.G. range, W.O.2 Steward, Sgt. Shave, L/Cpl. O'Brien and L/Cpl. Watts found the lack of a bank behind the targets a great disadvantage when shooting the S.M.G. from the hip. This made it very difficult to see the fall of shots. The team finished third, again to the Royal Sussex.

The three L.M.G. pairs had been doing extremely well in practice but on the day cut it extremely fine. Sgt. Davies and Sgt. Lloyd the first pair and Cpl. Dowsett and Pte. Sutherland the second, had below average shoots but the third pair, L/Cpl. Stevenson and Pte. Jennings, scored 77 out of a possible 80 which won the individual L.M.G. cup and the L.M.G. match by 1 point.

At lunch we lay second in the overall championships—to win, we had to win both the Britannia Cup and China Cup.

The Britannia Cup consisted of running 100 yards and shooting down a number of snap targets from 300 yards. We fired last and had a time of 35 seconds to beat, we did the shoot in 29 seconds and so won the cup. The same riflemen of the Battalion Cup team, Capt. Hewson, Lt. Pitman, Sgt. Tarry, Cpl. Burrows, Cpl. Fisher and L/Cpl. Peak were then joined by Sgt. Lloyd and Sgt. Davies with their L.M.G. and moved over to shoot in the China Cup Competition. The result of the championship hung on this shoot. We had a steady shoot in good conditions and won it and

so won the Home Counties Major Units Championships, For good measure we also won the falling plates competition,

It was appropriate that the Cup presented to us was the Lydd Town Cup. In addition to this and the Battalion Cup the teams came home with four medals and 26 tankards, altogether it was an extremely interesting, enjoyable and successful day's shooting.

RESULTS

11200210	
1. Unit Rifle Match	H.P.S. 1040
ıst—ı Royal Sussex	587
2nd—1 Middlesex	562
3rd—1 Royal Inniskillings	558
2. Unit L.M.G. Match	H.P.S. 240
ıst—ı Middlesex	201
2nd—1 Royal Sussex	200
3rd—1 Royal Inniskillings	193
3. Unit S.M.G. Match	H.P.S. 400
ıst—ı Royal Sussex	262
2nd-36 Corps E.W.G.R. Regiment	249
3rd—1 Middlesex	234
4. China Cup	H.P.S. 360
ıst—ı Middlesex	234
2nd—1 Royal Sussex	220
3rd—1 Royal Inniskillings	214
5. Britannia Cup	H.P.S. 65
M:111	
2nd—36 Corps E.W.G.R. Regiment	50
3rd—Depot Regiment R.E.	42
	40
6. Falling Plates	
1st—1 Middlesex	
7. 44 H.C. Div. Dist. Major Units Champio	ons

Forthcoming Events

1 Middlesex

1963

November 1 Officers' Reunion, 2nd Battalion (June 1918-April 1919).

November 7 7th Middlesex Officers' Club Dinner at United Service Club.

November 9 Ceremony at Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey.

November 10 Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill.

November 21 57th/77th Officers' Dinner at United Service Club.

November 29 Annual Reunion at Seymour Hall.

1964

March 14 1/7th Battalion (1939-45) Dinner.

April 11/12 Spring Golf Meeting, Fleet.

May 16 Albuhera Day.

June 26 Officers' Club Dinner at United Service Club.

5th Battalion (T.A.) Notes

The major events of the past months have been the changes of Honorary Colonels. Due to War Office policy on amalgamations, we had hardly said goodbye to Brigadier Baker and welcomed General Hughes, when it became time to say goodbye to General Hughes and welcome Col. Pringle, the present Honorary Colonel. However, these three distinguished officers, each a former Honorary Colonel of one of the constitute units, have served to mark once more the all embracing nature of our new Battalion. We are sure that they must all have been pleased to find a Battalion, which owing much to its predecessors has already developed a character recognisably its own.

Camp 196;

This, the third camp since amalgamation, was again at Stanford in Norfolk. The site of Buckenham Tofts was tented, but for all that, reasonably comfortable. The weather was indifferent, but, although everyone got soaked at least once during the fortnight, thanks to sandy soil and bright periods between some most spectacular storms, it was in the main a dry camp from the 5th Middlesex point of view.

The first week was taken up with Company training, plus a Battalion Signal Exercise. The latter showed how much our communications and movement drills have improved during the year. The finale of the first week was the pair of company exercises by the two composite companies under the command of Captains Henshaw and Hogg. This amalgamation of companies to form viable sub units was at first unpopular, but the increased realism of having reasonably full organisations, proved itself to all.

The second week of camp brought exercise "Black Cat." This exercise was set by Brigade Headquarters for each Battalion in turn. We had the honour of being first through the hoop. After spending Sunday night in the concentration area at Bridgham Heath, we set out to invade Stanford P.T.A. The fitness and stamina of the rifle companies were fully tested and, excepting the odd error and omission, the signals and command organisation worked well.

Honours for the exercise must be evenly shared round the Battalion, but even amidst the wildest of self congratulation we all found time to admire the way in which our signallers firstly prepared so thoroughly, and secondly kept up, such good communications.

After the Brigade exercise, we had a chance to carry out some more company training and some live firing.

So far we have spoken only of the outside training activities of the Battalion. A great deal of credit must also go to W.O.2 Banks, A.C.C. and his staff. Their efforts were greatly appreciated by all, and not only within the Battalion. The chairman of the Territorial Association, Col. Gluckstein, was complimentary about the high standard of messing he saw. We can give plenty of weight to his views!

Camp 1964

The next camp will be on Dartmoor from June 21 to July 4, 1964. We look forward to training with a full complement of supporting arms,

"H.Q." COMPANY

Signals Platoon

The Signals Platoon went to camp this year 15 strong, a great improvement on previous years. Increased numbers were, however, accompanied by a much higher allocation of sets and the Platoon was kept busy for most of the time including the middle weekend, when the rest of the Battalion left for the seaside in coaches. Most of the new equipment was on temporary loan for camp and had to be returned in apparently immaculate condition to the Quartermaster at the end of 15 days. However, the Platoon acquired, before camp, a 19 set which, although it rarely worked, provided hours of amusement for S/Sgt. Hawkins and W.O.2 Michel, who was always available with expert advice and guidance.

The Platoon also had the benefit of six Canadian 35-ft. telescopic mast antennae (the Signals Platoon prides itself in being up to date and never talks of aerials now). Only five of these were brought back to Edgware, the R.S.O. having given strict instructions that vehicles were not to be driven with "aerials" up, proceeded to do just this. When questioned after the aerial had taken on some of the qualities of plasticine and collapsed spectacularly he is reported to have said he was only testing it to breaking point, a prudent thing to do with untried equipment.

Of really lasting value are the five F.F.R. Landrovers that have been permanently allocated to the Platoon. The horrors of battery charging are rapidly receding into the past although there are certain additional hazards for the unwary. Ptc. Miller is prepared to swear that a 62-set will work, for ten seconds or so, with one battery terminal connected and the set resting on the 24-volt positive chassis of the vehicle.

Communications at camp were reasonably good, though procedure needed improvement, due mostly to lack of practice; two officers, the R.S.O. heard, were convinced that their appointment titles were Playlight and Startime respectively, and waited in vain for 15 days for the call over the air that never came. As usual the efforts of which we were most proud (for example the range of eight miles in Norfolk countryside on a 31-set) always took place in private away from the Battalion and things were not as good on the two schemes.

Cpl. Snowden has taken over as storeman, a difficult job when new equipment seems to come in all the time whilst the old remains. Sgt. Stunt is now Platoon Sergeant and is to be congratulated on his recent promotion. Lt. Doran has replaced Capt. Enthoven as R.S.O., the latter having left the T.A. to have a daughter, and build barracks for his old Battalion in Africa.

Recce Platoon

Much has happened since our winning team returned from the Brigade M.M.G. match, but our most important news is the loss of Sgt. Mortimer to the fleshpots of Company H.Q. and the exotic rank of Colour-Sergeant, where he is now doing a fine job with our best wishes, even though he knows far too many of our more valuable "Military Secrets." In place of Sgt. Mortimer we congratulate Sgt. Purchase on both his promotion from Section Corporal, and the recent birth of a daughter. Whilst on the home front our best wishes go to Pte. McQuaid on his recent marriage and Corporal Claydon on getting engaged.

Camp proved interesting and testing for our Military skills or lack of them, but despite comment, we did not spend all our time in orbit as stated by S/Sgt. Hawkins of the Signals—he could have been biased—though without his help we would never have completed the scheme on the same day as the rest of the Battalion. Also Pte. Brown has blossomed into a chef which, coupled with his qualifying as a Battalion driver, makes him one of our most useful members. Pte. Hunte's efforts as our secret night radar have given him the title "Terror of the Assault Pioneers." Despite our trials and tribulations, we had a good camp.

Back at the Drill Hall we are working at the skills needed to turn us into an effective Recce Platoon, instead of a portable dodgem car rally. In addition we are learning how to operate a radiological survey so that we can provide nuclear monitoring teams for the Battalion, or that sort of thing anyway. L/Cpl. Chandler is already scrounging amongst his mates at Head Office (War Office) for a spare bomb of our own, and knowing his power of scrounge, we feel he might got one.

Our last thought is to welcome all our new recruits and hope that next camp we can be at our full establishment of 18 strong and in vehicles throughout the fortnight.

"A" COMPANY

Since February, we have gained a new Company Commander and a new Company 2IC. Capt. Malcolm Beaumont took over at the beginning of April, having previously been 2IC of "H.Q." Company under Major Gunnell. Our 2IC is now Capt. Geoff Young, likewise an import from Edgware, having been M.T.O. He says it took three months in a Rifle Company before he was once more slim enough to fit into B.D. trousers.

We have also gained Lt. Jock Smith from the Highland Light Infantry, who has now transferred properly, having only been attached since last November. This transfer necessitated the changing of a large number of badges and a sentimental goodbye to kilt and "Jock honner"

Our main loss was Sgt. John Elderfield, raised to the heights of Colour-Sergeant, but unfortunately transferred to "C" Company as well. We gather he is now successfully re-organising them along good "A" Company lines.

At the beginning of February we put three teams in for the Battalion Weapon Training Competition, but we didn't do very well. They were basically platoon teams, and all Company training had been devoted to this Competition for about a month beforehand, including one whole day's training. This led to a certain amount of heart-searching; the causes and cures for coming as far down the list as we did are being kept very secret. But we reckon the results will show next year.

We are rather happier with the performance we put up on the open ranges in the Battalion rifle meeting on April 6-7, when we came second to those winners-of-everything, "D" Company. Also, our new Company Commander won the Officers' Cup (he maintains the supplementary bullet holes were made in his target by some kind soul farther along the firing point, but nobody will believe him).

In fact, shooting has been our strong point, and for this we have to thank Sgt. Graham, who has patiently coached his team over a long period of time. We were chosen to represent the Battalion in the Brigade Harmonisation Cup in the middle of April, and the Battalion's selection was a sound one, as proved by the fact that we won the cup. The team was: Sgt. Graham, Cpl. Stone, Pte. (now Cpl.) Muirhead and Pte. Newman. The two latter are newcomers to the company, and very welcome ones; Cpl. Muirhead had a fine Regular Army career which included Sergeant's stripes and a "B" on his course at Hythe, and Pte. Newman is a former Brigade of Guards National Serviceman.

The Company also did very well in the N.S.R.A. national competition. This shoot involves no fewer than 379 teams from T.A. Units all over the country, and is grouped by counties. Our Company finished the competition as the best shots in all Middlesex, a title which we are very pleased to hold. The team was: Capt. Beaumont, Sgt. Graham, Cpl. Stone, Cpl. Muirhead, Pte. Newman and Pte. Oliver.

Capt. Beaumont took over at the beginning of April, and spent a month getting the measure of the Company. Then things started happening. We acquired a B.A.T. anti-tank gun (this might have been a coincidence) and reorganised the Company along more realistic lines (this certainly wasn't one). We now have No. 1 Platoon full of trained soldiers, No. 3 for recruits, a Support Platoon, and a basis for No. 2 Platoon in a recruiting team under Lt. Smith and Sgt. Elliott. This goes out on Tuesday evenings to vantage points in our recruiting areas, taking a truck, the recruiting caravan, and a display of weapons and training equipment. Later it is to have a complete stand that can be carried on a truck and set down on the spot.

The Support Platoon is busily developing an antitank crew, with the immediate objective of being ready for the live firing weekend towards the end of September. It is also developing a new Platoon Commander, 2/Lt. Jim Walker, who is preparing to take over the Platoon because Lt. Jan Van de Pol's firm is likely to transfer him to the Liverpool area shortly. He hopes to be back with us in less than a year.

Training is becoming more adventurous. There was a very successful field firing weekend on April 27/28, when a good number of people were able to fire Stens and Energas and throw 36 grenades. Lt. Smith laid on frighteningly realistic displays of section fire-power and a series of live-firing attacks, and the whole show was remarkably successful. It was the first time Cpl.

Ashby (A.C.C.) had cooked for us, and he did extremely well. The party on the Saturday night went well too—our singing kept the floor of the pub rocking up and down for hours together.

Then a weekend exercise at the end of July designed to give all ranks practice in practical map reading became an initiative scheme for teams of four or five. The narrative told them they were escaped P.O.W.'s who had to locate a series of "friendly civilian agents," and move from one such agent to the next without using main roads. The last leg was at night, and necessitated moving on a compass bearing across very difficult country. (A small prize was won by Sgt. Graham, Pte. Allingham, Pte. Richards and Pte. Watford.)

The Snowdon weekend was as tough as we had wanted it to be. We left by train on the evening of Friday, August 16 and arrived in the small hours of Saturday at our base camp, the smart and modern Drill Hall of "H.Q." Company, 6/7th Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, to whom we are most grateful for much hospitality. The climb was done under increasingly unpleasant weather conditions, with lowering cloud and bursts of cold driving rain, and we went up by the toughest route of all, along the razor edge of the rock wall called Crib Goch, with a sheer drop of nearly 2,000 ft. either side of us. The fastest complete team, under 2/Lt. Walker, reached the summit in exactly three hours; the others in the team were Sgt. Smith and Ptes. Allingham, Holt, Horridge, Maskell.

It was pleasing to see that everyone who attended was willing to tackle tougher conditions and frankly more frightening climbing than they were ready for, and that they made up in spirit what some may have lacked in fitness.

We were sorry not to see C.S.M. Stack at camp, but pressure of work made it quite impossible for him to attend. Sgt. Elliott, therefore, took over as Acting C.S.M. for the first week, and has been highly praised for the work he did. 2/Lt. Walker was also unable to attend on account of his firm's high-pressure training scheme.

As far as Company training was concerned, the emphasis was on tactics and fieldcraft. The one day and night exercise at the start of the first week went very very well, apart from the increasingly uncomfortable weather. This scheme will always be remembered if only for Pte. Wessen, who dug his trench by digging out all the earth—and throwing it into someone else's trench! More serious fieldcraft was carried out by a patrol under Lt. Smith and Sgt. Graham, who went to "sniff over" "C" Company during the night. The Company admired the mortars for digging such a deep pit and we were all very sorry for them striking water in such abundance. The B.A.T. crew were luckier, since their gun and its tarpaulins form a natural but completely tactical tent—very cosy, they say.

During the second week, the training was principally at Battalion level, but the Company would like to be mentioned separately because the Brigadier singled us out for praise for the part we played in the exercise, and for our skilful movement across ground. However, the Company did go off on its own that week down to

Fingringhoe for live firing; everyone used the Energa, 3.5 in. rocket launcher, and the 2 in. mortar, and the chosen few fired the 3 in. mortar. We spent the night there in excellent bivouac.

We very much enjoyed ourselves, all in all. Lt. Smith has proved his ability to raise and maintain morale; this applies in the field and in the pub. The Company held a 21st-party for L/Cpl. Lawrence, presenting him with a cake and regaling him at a local ale-house (this on the second Thursday evening). Here Lt. Smith came into his own, and even demonstrated the Highland sword-dance, although using beer bottles instead of swords did rather cramp his style.

Among the more official entertainments, we beat "C" Company in the five-a-side football competition but lost in the semi-final to the eventual winners, "D" Company. Our satisfactory performance, Sgt. Elliott reports, was entirely due to the first-class efforts of "A" Company's brilliant goalkeeper, a bright young man called Sgt. Elliott.

It was to our regret that we had to be amalgamated with "B" Company during the second week of camp on account of low attendance (a problem not unique to this Company). It underlines our need to promote interest in the T.A. not only among those we try to recruit, but also among those we have already taken on strength. It is our aim not only to be a self-sufficient Company at camp next year, but to have more people, literally, than we know what to do with.

Although the summer is not the main social season, the Company has held a number of social events. There was a wine and cheese party for officers and N.C.O.s and their wives or girl friends, and this was a particular success; we had the right number of people in the right size room (the old Officers' Mess of the 7th Battalion) and the right kind of atmosphere. There was also a summer social for the whole Company just before the August Bank Holiday weekend which was a little slow to warm up but became almost dangerously lively as the evening went on. This was in addition to the normal summer dance on May 11, just before the Albuhera Day Parade and marking Albuhera Day itself. This was run by Capt. Young and C.S.M. Stack, and involved two bands playing to a capacity crowd in a very well decorated and organised Drill Hall. An incident which all who attended will remember was the spot prize for the man with most tattoos; the winner proved on close examination (a) to have 38 tattoos, and (b) to be the father of Sgt. Jack Warner of the 1st Battalion.

The Company is also becoming publicity conscious, the aim being to raise recruitment and attendances. Since this problem is very much akin to the national advertiser's problem of selling a product, we have been looking into the possibilities of extending our publicity activities within the limits of our tiny budget. Press releases are now being sent out regularly to one local paper, and it is hoped to extend this soon to three or four. The recruiting team can also be looked on as publicity, of an inexpensive and very effective kind, and the Drill Hall itself is in a good position for outdoor advertising of a suitable kind. With this in view, the Support Platoon now uses the forecourt of the Drill Hall for gun

drill on B.A.T. or mortars in good weather, and this draws a small but interested crowd. (It causes less public barracking than we originally feared.) Our next step is to think seriously about exactly what kind of public "image" we want to build, and exactly how we are going to build it.

"B" COMPANY

Certainly the most memorable event to take place since our last notes was the "enrolment" of our new P.S.I., W.O.2 (C.S.M.) Adkins, D. His enthusiasm for the Company and his interest in its activities is second to none and we all hope he enjoys a long and happy tour of duty with us.

Shortly after the arrival of C.S.M. Adkins we celebrated the enlistment of Lt. D. Margand in April. This was rather belated in view of the fact that he first applied for a commission in October but we are assured that he is now the most "screened" officer in the T.A. Subsequently we have welcomed Lt. D. Smith from the Birmingham University O.T.C.

We have had many Company Training weekends during the year but perhaps the most memorable was that spent at Harrow in the "back garden" of Lt. Jones's estate. Harrow School kindly granted us the use of their open range and swimming pool and we were able to practise watermanship in the large lake available. An interesting night patrol exercise culminated in a river crossing prior to a "snatch" but, as was to be expected, the silence was shattered when Pte. Siden took a ducking that was not included in the patrol programme.

Inevitably any summary of the Company's activities must mention camp which is, of course, the focal point of the training year. This year was undoubtedly "B" Company's best for many years and the highlights were an interesting defence-patrol exercise against "D" Company and the Battalion scheme. Morale throughout the fortnight was excellent and amongst the many people who contributed to this successful camp were C.S.M. Adkins and Lt. Richards. Despite the strenuous training inflicted on us civilians we had no casualties on exercise although our record of injuries on "recreational" training was quite alarming. L/Col. Caley was the most seriously injured in that he broke a bone in his leg playing football-nevertheless, in ignorance of the extent of the damage, he carried on playing and assisted in an 8-1 victory over "A" Company.

Unfortunately we lost Lt. J. S. Richards to the M.T. shortly after camp and his contribution to the Company is sorely missed. Nevertheless we congratulate him on his promotion and wish him success in his new appointment.

In conclusion we must thank Mr. Smith our Clerk/ Caretaker who kindly presented a very handsome cup as an inter-Platoon .22 trophy. This is a splendid addition to our silver and will be keenly fought for between the platoons.

"C" COMPANY

The most successful pre-camp weekend training took place at the field-firing range at Hangmoor. The stimulus of live rounds helped to produce some really spirited section attacks, even though the rounds were travelling (in the main) in only one direction.

The Albuhera Day parade, sundry officers' T.E.W.T.s, and Signal Exercises behind us, we felt fit to take the field at Stanford for annual camp. This we did with slightly higher numbers than last year and also strengthened by a number of promotions. These included C/Sgt. Elderfield (posted to us on promotion from "A" Company) and Sgts. Hill and Harwood. We also had our 3-in. mortar section functioning as such for the first time.

The C.-in-C. Eastern Command, visited the Company whilst on the 36 grenade range and borrowed a steel helmet to watch some of the throwing. Afterwards he spoke to L/Cpl. Cox and others, on life in the T.A.

Those without cars found the social life at Stanford sparse, but Yarmouth and Norwich seemed to have something special to offer most people at the weekend.

Our pin-up is of W.O.2 R. Payne, who has been C.S.M. since 1961, having previously been C.S.M. of "S" Company of the 7th Battalion. Sgt.-Major Payne joined the Hertfordshire Regiment in 1940, and 1943 found him in Italy crossing the River Arno, near Florence, one of the many river battles of the campaign, After VE Day he went to Palestine to deal with the terrorists. He has a grown-up son and daughter and a son aged 7, who leaves him very little spare time when off parade.

"D" COMPANY

"A period of intense military activity" might best describe the past six months. There have been two important changes; a change of War Minister and a change of P.S.I. Whilst the former has provided an endless topic of conversation in the bar we must admit that the latter change has had far more impact on members of "D" Company.

The departure of C.S.M. Bill Wright was a sad occasion for the Company, for we had lost an outstanding P.S.I. whose hard work, enthusiasm, and loyalty were an example to all Regulars who are required to serve with the T.A. It will be many years before the T.A. sees the like of Bill Wright again and we all send him our best wishes in his new posting.

It has been suggested Company notes, which provide a general survey of recent activities, lack interest and are much the same as any other Company notes. In general we agree, in fact, a general survey of "D" Company's activities would have many similarities with that of last year, but we must modestly point out that it cannot be said to be the same as any other Company's notes. For, once again, we seem to have won more than our fair share of inter-Company competitions, and these notes would not be complete without some mention of the trophies which have again been won by the team efforts of many members of the Company.

All weapon training trophies were won in February and at the annual rifle meeting the shooting cup was retained even more convincingly than last year. All other competitions at this meeting were won except for the Hamilton Leigh. In the .22 shooting another victory was achieved but in the basket ball competition we had to admit the superiority of "B" Company and



" D" Company with their Trophies

they must be congratulated on winning a thrilling and most enjoyable final at Edgware.

Mention must be made of Sgt. George Overton, our felt and his vocal contributions are in great demand at Company parties. We also welcome Lt. Fred Hamilton who forsook world-wide travel as a "Panorama" cameraman and now has to be content with less exotic duties as a "Sportsview" cameraman. We understand he made this change to enable him to attend T.A. more regularly, which only emphasises the strange magnetic attraction of the T.A. Even now, however, we cannot understand why he prefers Hounslow to the Himalayas or Helsinki or wherever else the "Panorama" team might take him.

Capt. Ken Murray has left us for greater administrative responsibility in the "H.Q." Company, but we are hopeful that he might return with his renderings of "Mush-Mush" (apologies for spelling) and his roulette wheel. We have said farewell to Cpl. Dan Whyte due to pressure of business, but although with us for a relatively short time he became outstandingly popular with all ranks. L/Cpl. "Punchy" Lee has also left us and we thank him for his sterling service whilst with us. To offset these departures there has been a steady influx of recruits and we welcome Ptes. Clayton, Gough, Jenkins, Goss, Tett, Vinall, Webb, Hancock, Caley and Williams, who we trust are already gaining the "D" Company spirit.

Finally we come to this year's annual camp. What will be our memories? Will it be wet weather or the excellent food; will it be the spirited display of Sgt. Young, L/Cpl. Lee, and Ptes. Hart, P., Joyce, Long and Manderville in retaining the six-a-side inter-Company

football trophy; will it be the sense of achievement on reaching the R.V. at the end of the escape and evasion exercise; or the defence of Tottington and the patrols against "B" Company; will it be the singing at the Company party or the hospitality of the Corporals at their party at Fingringhoe; or may be some will remember the appearance of Lt. Jim McMaster in the Sergeants' Mess in pyjamas? Whatever we remember, however, we shall, no doubt, think of 1963 as being yet another successful and enjoyable camp. Roll on 1964!

OFFICERS' MESS

The wind and the rain of Norfolk are now behind us but who would have thought that we would have needed heaters in a tent in flaming June? The only good thing was that a 15s. bunch of flowers lasted for 15 days. Must have been the fresh air.

Two dinner nights and a cocktail party were the only events in the Mess at camp, all of which went very well. The cocktail party was voted the best in the Brigade but maybe that was because someone wanted our gas heaters. We were very pleased to see Cols. Walden, Ellis and Clayton, and our other guests included a F/Lt. Howell of the R.A.F. who was amazed to see so much silver and Mess kits in the "field."

So many officers have recently been married that the Mess Secretary has hinted that the presentation fund subscription be trebled. Our congratulations go to Lts. Doran, Walker, Phillips and Thomas and we wish them long and happy marriages.

A very successful Albuhera dinner was held on May 17, at which 48 officers and guests sat down, almost the maximum for the Mess. Two silver soldier statuettes were presented to Brigadier Baker, our retiring Honorary Colonel, and Capts. Pollecoff and Enthoven were dined out. Capt. Enthoven is now on his way to Sierra Leone to design barracks for the Army out there.

A new venture was tried in the Mess on 20th July when 40 officers and their guests attended a buffet dance. The band was the dance band of the Battalion and it was such a successful evening that it is hoped that it will be repeated. In fact, the P.M.C. has just produced a list of events for the Mess up to camp 1064 that should keep wives and girl friends happy for a few months.

Finally, we end these notes with a tale of scandal. It is rumoured that an Officers' Mess cricket team was beaten by the Commanding Officers' village team. Who bribed whom we do not know, but the officers were said to have "hung their bats out" like good test cricketers.

SERGEANTS' MESS

A considerable number of new faces have appeared in the Mess since the last issue. Firstly we welcome W.O.2 Adkins, Sgt. Overton and Sgt. Partridge as new P.S.I.s and trust that their stay with us will be a pleasant one. Sgts. Purchese, Stunt, Harwood, Hill, Tomkins, Collins and Gasson are congratulated on their promotion and welcomed into the Mess. W.O.2 Birmingham, C/Sgt. Mortimer and C/Sgt. Elderfield are congratulated on their promotions and we feel sure that they will serve the unit as well in their new posts as they have done in the past.

Due to the kind assistance given by an Honorary member, the Mess was completely modernised and redecorated in the course of a fortnight. We now feel that we have one of the most exclusive bars in North London

This modernisation was finished in time for us to hold a very successful Stag Night on Albuhera Day. We were glad to see members from the other Messes within the Brigade and a very strong contingent from 47 Signal Regiment (Middlesex Yeomanry), who in the past were The Duke of Cambridge's Hussars.

At last, annual camp found us once again at Stanford P.T.A. Sgt. Trindall made an excellent job of transforming a marquee into a Sergeants' Mess. We are still trying to discover why the chief clerk had to spend a night in Brandon, claiming that he was unable to find his way back to camp, in spite of the excellent routesigning done by Sgt. Sills. The fact that Drum-Major Holdford forgot to take his mace for beating Retreat can now be published. He was thankful that there were only a few members present. On officer's night, the Quartermaster and Sgt. Ambler were contemplating retiring, after a substantial pick-up at horse racing. Throughout the whole period of camp, as usual, C/Sgt. Rea excelled himself on the piano. Finally we must not forget the "retiring" P.S.I.s, W.O.2 Wright, Sgt. Willis and Sgt. Shoebridge whom we heartily thank for their Trojan efforts whilst with us and wish them every success with their new units.

FOR SALE

Mess Jacket in very good condition for 7 guineas. Will fit officer—height 5 ft. 9 ins., chest measurement 36-38 ins. Apply R.H.Q.

HOME COUNTIES BRIGADE DEPOT NOTES

This period seems to have been one of marking time. The Depot is still in Wemyss Barracks and there seems to be very little chance of a move to Howe Barracks this year.

I would like to mention now, that it was with deep regret that we were told of the passing away of Gen. Sir Lashmer Whistler after a long and painful illness. Members of the 2nd Battalion will remember him well as our Divisional Commander from the Rhine Crossing in 1945 until 1947 in Palestine. In the latter place he could be frequently seen watching our inter-Company Rugby and football matches and taking tea with us in the Mess afterwards. We at the Depot remembered him especially at our final parade on July 5 when we stood in silence at the beginning of the Padre's address and all five flags were half-masted and remained so until Retreat.

I promised, in my last notes, to include some information on the Museum in these notes. I have again postponed this so that any notes written can be applied to the New Museum in Howe Barracks.

There have been several changes in the staff at the Depot. Major C. N. Clayden has now taken over command of the Depot from Lt.-Col. Ian Roper, who has returned to the staff. We welcome Major Nick Carter and his wife to the Depot; he has taken over the duties of D.A.A.G. and Brigade Adjutant to the Brigade Colonel. Major Frank Waldron is now the Q.M. at the Depot and we are delighted to see him and Grace with us at Canterbury. It can be seen now that there appears to be a small Middlesex empire building up at the Depot.

We were delighted to see Major-Gen. John Willoughby at the Depot for a brief visit after his return from Hong Kong; we hope that we shall see much more of him whilst he is in England.

"Die-Hards" Pay Homage to Col. Inglis

At 1400 hrs. on May 16, 1963, a small party of "Die-Hards" gathered together in the Buffs Chapel in the Cathedral at Canterbury with the Rev. E. J. Powe, Chaplain to the Home Counties Brigade, to pay tribute to those men who died at Albuhera and in particular to remember their gallant Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. Inglis. We were most grateful to the Queen's Own Buffs for making their chapel available to us.

We gathered in the Buffs Chapel where the Chaplain and those present said together the Lord's Prayer, which was followed by the reading of Psalm 27. The Lesson for the service was taken from Joshua, chapter I, verses 1-9. This was followed by a short address by the Chaplain. The service closed with the Regimental Collect followed by the Padre leading us in prayer and the Blessing.

We then proceeded to the burial place of Lt.-Col. Inglis which is located in the Chapter House half-way down on the left where you can find two flagstones on which the initials W.I. and M.M.I. are carved.

For those interested and who are visiting or passing through Canterbury, there is a plaque in memory of William Inglis situated on the wall of the North Aisle of the Nave at the east end.

It is our intention that a small service will be held each year in the Buffs Chapel on Albuhera Day to remember those who served both Regiment and Country.

"H.Q." Company

This Company's whole duties are to look after those persons in transit; they have had a comparatively quiet time, chiefly because most of the Battalions of the Brigade have been in England. Sgt. Dickens, our only representative, has recently joined Training Company, much to his delight.

Sgt. Bill Landreth has been on our "Held Strength" for the last three months and during that time has done yeoman work in helping to run the Junior Boys' Club. Included here are a few notes on Sgt. Landreth's activities since leaving the Battalion in May, 1951, having served in Korea with them.

Until August, 1952, he served in Singapore and Malaya where he met up with Joe O'Keefe who was an Inspector in the Civilian Police, and who later was killed hunting bandits. Jack Ure was also in Singapore at this time on the War Graves Commission staff. When Ure went to Malaya Sgt. Landreth took over his job on the War Graves Commission staff.

Sgt. Landreth's next post was in Accra and later went to Aqaba, Jordan, where he was able to meet up with Major (now Lt.-Col.) Douglas Sax's Company in which both "Geordie" Nicholson and Da Costa were serving. He then moved to Cyprus on the Devonshire where he met up with the remainder of the Battalion at Dhekelia. From 1960 to 1963 he was in Hong Kong and is now on his way to Berlin for his last posting. 1965 will mean the Bowler Hat for Landreth at the age of 55.

We look forward to seeing Sgt. Landreth before he finally departs and hope that his final two years will be pleasant ones.

Pte. Penfold can be seen around the Ration Store from time to time.

Training Company

There have been a number of final parades of Platoons completing their training and the Regiment has been represented in them all.

MARCH 22, 1963

Best at P.T.: Pte. R. Wright, 2 James Street, Hounslow.

Most Improved at P.T.: Pte. E. McEvoy, 87 Bouverie Road, Stoke Newington, N.16.

Those Joining 1st Middlesex: Ptes. Berry (Tottenham), Gallagher (Scotland), ex-Cadet Kaye (Hornsey), Minden (Hornsey), Morrison (Scotland), Slattery (Ireland), Starling (Hanwell), and Lewis (Hornsey). APRIL 11, 1963

Best Recruit: Pte. Saunders, Hayes, Middlesex.

Most Improved at P.T.: Pte. McVeigh, Dundee.

Those Joining 1st Middlesex: Ptes Clark (Egham), Goodman (Golders Green), Hedger (Harrow), McGlade (Hornsey), Slade (Harrow), and Jnr. Ldr. Cannon, Oswestry (Hanwell).

APRIL 26, 1963

Recruits Joining 1st Middlesex: Barnard (South Harrow), brother in the Regiment 1949-52, father served 1st Middlesex (deceased), Brown (Tottenham), Reid (Staines), Morrison (Cranford), and Smith 254 (Willesden).



Pte. B. Murray

JUNE 5, 1963

Recruits Joining 1st Middlesex: Ptes. P. Brown, J. McClinchey, E. Perks, M. Davies, J. Kennedy, P. Day, J. O'Shea, D. Thompson, and N. Russell.

JULY 7, 196

Best Recruit, Best Shot and Best at P.T.: Pte. B.
Murray. Pte. Murray was quite outstanding
although his Platoon only numbered 10 in the end.

Recruits Joining 1st Middlesex: Ptes. F. Cooke, G. Gadenne, and B. Murray.

The Die Hards

JULY 26, 1963

Best Recruit: Pte. Forey.

Recruits Joining 1st Middlesex: Ptes. M. Carroll, R. Dobell, J. O'Connell, and A. O'Neill (Royal Sussex); Ptes. B. Armitage, B. Etchells, J. Forey and R. Webb (Middlesex).

The following are now members of the Training Staff of Training Company of the Regiment: Lts. Goring and Lofting, C.S.M. Jessup, Sgts. Ford, Dickens and Quinn, and Cpls. Phillips, Stevens, Fisher, Mullender, Bartlett and White.

Junior Soldiers' Wing

There has been great activity in the Boys' Wing this year. We have maintained our recruiting strength and have participated in a number of official functions with some distinction. These include Wembley Stadium for the Schoolboys' International Football, the Royal Tournament, several local engagements in Middlesexand the Beating of Retreat on July 31.

The Middlesex are well represented on the staff of the Wing, namely, Drum-Major Lewis whom we welcome, Cpl. Routledge, and L/Cpl. Parker. Major Bellers, who leaves at the end of the term for the War Office P.S.(4), will be succeeded by Major Geoffrey Mason who was a subaltern in the 2nd Battalion in Hong Kong in 1931-52.

What of the 10 Junior Bandsmen and 20 Junior Drummers of the Regiment in the Wing? J/Bdsm. Tubb and J/L/Cpl. Peterson will go to Kneller Hall in October; J/Cpl. Stanislaus and J/Dmr. Cameron join the Battalion in September, followed before the end of the year by: Band, L/Cpl. P. Taylor and J/Bdsm. McDonald and Barclay; Drums, J/Cpl. J. Taylor and J/Dmrs. Hardy, O'Callaghan, Herbert, Clare and MacConachie.

Sports

It is very difficult to compete in most sporting activities when one has to rely almost entirely upon the Permanent Staff to provide the teams, but in spite of this the Depot made a great name for itself in the field of sport.

Cross-country: Canterbury Federation of Youth Championships: Under 18: 1st, J/Bdsm. Tubb and L/Cpl. P. Taylor. Under 16: 2nd, Grimes, Stanley and May were from the Middlesex.

Hockey: Winners of 44 (H.C.) Div./Dist. Minor Units; runners-up of Eastern Command Minor Units. Representatives: Lt.-Col. Clayden, Major Waldron, Major Bellers, Lt. Lofting, Sgt. Quinn and L/Col. O'Brien.

Rugby Football: Runners-up, 44 (H.C.) Div./Dist (seven-a-side) and Eastern Command (seven-a-side). Lts. Goring and Lofting represented the Depot from the Regiment.

Cricket: Lt. Lofting has played regularly for both the Combined Services and the Army this season. The following have represented the Depot: Lts. Lofting and Goring, and L/Cpls. Parker and O'Brien.

Open Range Shooting

The Depot again swept the board in the District

Minor Units shooting championships. This I think can be clearly seen from the photograph. They won every match except the S.M.G. and their results favoured very well with those of the Major Units. The Depot are to be congratulated on beating I Middlesex in the final of the falling plates. Ironically enough Lt. Goring Sgt. Ford and Cpl. Whittle were in this team. Those who represented the Home Counties Brigade during this year, were Lt. Goring, Sgt. Ford, Cpls. Phillips, Fisher Whittle, Brumwell and Stevens.

The Depot also sent a team to Bisley for the first time. Cpl. Whittle was the only "Die-Hard" who could be spared. He came 272 out of 400 in the second stage of the Army Championships (not bad for the first time). Athletics

The Depot team was third in the District Meeting by only 3 points. Lt. Goring won the discus with a throw of 130 ft. $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. and L/Cpl. Bartlett the shot with 32 ft. $11\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following on their promotion: Cpl. O'Gorman to Sergeant in the Orderly Room, Cpl. Quinn to Sergeant in Training Company, Capt. Waldron on his Majority and Major Clayden on his Command.

Valete

Cpl. Whittle. A member of the Weapon Training staff for two years and a very staunch supporter of both the small-bore and open range rifle teams. He has been known to turn out for hockey; a particularly memorable occasion was when the Depot played 1 Middlesex in the snow at Lydd when he played a tremendous game. We shall certainly miss him and his support. We wish him and his family a happy time in Gibraltar.

Cpl. Fisher. We appreciate the help Cpl. Fisher has given us by staying on and we are glad he has not missed out on a Quarter in Gibraltar. He has done us well at the Depot and we hope he has enjoyed his stay. May he and his wife find soldiering in Gibraltar to their liking.

Sgt. Kerr. Although a "Die-Hard" he has left the Depot to join I Royal Sussex. We are sorry to see him leave the Regiment, but are sure this is for his good and to his benefit. He did very well at the Depot and we were sorry to see him go. We hope he will not forget to come back and see us from time to time.

Cpl. Brumwell. A well-known figure at the Depot who did well, if at times a little brutal. There were rumours that he wanted to become a grocer; perhaps he had an eye to his retirement. It would be criminal if he did leave the Regiment now. We wish him the very best of success with the Battalion.

Pte. Fletcher. He had a very varied career whilst at the Depot. Mess waiter, batman and finally C.O.'s batman. Whilst all this was going on and in between riding a moped be got married. There was certainly no lack of activity. I think, however, his forte is probably driving. We wish him and his wife every happiness in the Battalion.

Avete

W.O.2 Jessup. It seems to me my old W.O. and N.C.O.s are following me around. We extend a warm welcome to C.S.M. and Mrs. Jessup and look forward to seeing a lot of them during their stay in Canterbury.



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Photo: County News Pictures, Canterbury,

HOME COUNTIES BRIGADE SHOOTING TEAM, 1963

Top Row: Cpl. L. Fisher (Mx), Cpl. R. Nicolson (R. Sx.), Cpl. G. Whittle (Mx.), Cpl. F. Boyne (Q.R. Surreys), L/Cpl. S. C. Aller (Q.R. Surreys), Cpl. W. Turner (Mx.), Cpl. A. Brimwell (Mx.), Cpl. A. Stevens (Mx.), L/Cpl. M. De Marco (Q.R. Surreys)

Bottom Row: Cpl. T. Phillips (Q.O. Buffs), Sgt. R. Ford (Mx.), C.S.M. R. Keyton (R. Sx.), Lt. G. Goring (Mx.), Lt. C. J. Pearson (Q.O. Buffs), Q.M.S.I. R. Howard (S.A.S.C.), Sgt. D. Hodges (R. Sx.), Cpl. A. Ford (R. Sx.)

Sgt. Dickens, has joined the training staff at Canterbury and will. I know, once he has settled in, enjoy it. It is unfortunate that he is the only living-in member of the Sergeants' Mess at the moment. We hope that next year he will be an active member of the Depot rifle team.

Drum-Major Lewis, I do not think has really had time to absorb the surroundings of the Depot before being fully occupied in training the boys. This is a very different task to the one he had with 1 Middlesex. Drum-Major Lewis came from the Welsh Guards before joining 1 Middlesex in which he has served for several years now. We wish him and his family an enjoyable time whilst at the Depot.

Cpls. Mullender, Bartlett and White have recently joined the Depot. The former two, ex-members of Support Company, and White at one time a drummer.

I was hoping to have news of the Special Recruiters. Sgt. Orme from Great Scotland Yard has written in to say that Shrubb, Colebeck and Bartle have all called in to see him recently, the latter with a view to getting his son into the Regiment through Oswestry.

Paddy McGrath (1st Battalion, 1936, and P.O.W. in Hong Kong) has been down to visit the Depot. Invalided out in 1946. He is Sgt. Quinn's brother-in-law.

Mrs. Clayden, we are delighted to hear, was awarded a Highly Commended for a painting entered in the Army Arts and Crafts exhibition at Earls Court.

L Cpl. O'Brien turned cricketer this year and excelled himself with the bat; one particular innings of 69 was

Sgt. Quinn had a hard-fought hockey season, once being sent off and on another occasion used his stick on the backside of a Sapper Major, not without a great deal of justification.

We take this opportunity of wishing all Depot and ex-Depot members and all "Die-Hards" elsewhere a very happy Christmas.

C. N. C.

Have you placed a regular order for a copy of the JOURNAL?

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OBITUARY

Gen. Sir John Crocker

Gen. Sir John Crocker, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., died in a London hospital on Saturday, March 9, 1963,

He enlisted in the Artists Rifles (T.A.) early in the 1914-18 War and served with that distinguished unit until, in January 1917, he was given a temporary commission in the Machine Gun Corps. He went on active service in March and won the M.C. in the Third Battle of Ypres a few months later. Then, whilst still a Second-Lieutenant in command of a machine gun section he won the D.S.O. in the March Retreat of rots.

In August 1919 he was demobilised and went back to civil life, but returned to the Army in 1920 with a Regular commission as Lieutenant in our Regiment. He was posted to the 2nd Battalion and served with it until he was transferred to the Royal Tank Corps three

He commanded an Armoured Brigade in France in 1040 and, shortly after the evacuation from France, the newly-formed 6th Armoured Division. From 1942 to 1943 he commanded the 9th Corps in Tunisia, when he was wounded, and the 1st Corps throughout the campaign in France and Germany 1944-45.

Immediately after the end of the war in Europe Sir John was appointed G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command, and in 1947 he was made C.-in-C. Middle East Land Forces. In 1050 he was brought bome to become Adjutant-General to the Forces and Second Military Member of the Army Council. He held this high post until his retirement in 1953.

In 1957 he was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Imperial War Graves Commission, of which he had become a member in 1950.

In 1961 he was appointed Her Majesty's Lieutenant for the County of Middlesex, which high office he was holding at the time of his death.

Air Marshal Sir John D'Albiac

Air Marshal Sir John H. D'Albiac, K.C.V.O., K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., who after a distinguished career in the R.A.F., became the first Commandant of London Airport, died on August 20, 1963, at the age of 69.

John Henry D'Albiac was born at Kew on January 28, 1894, and was educated at Seabrook Lodge, Kent, and at Framlingham College, where he was a contemporary of Brigadier Basil Rackham and Lt.-Col. Hervey del Court.

He served in all three Services. When war broke out in 1914 he enlisted in our 10th Battalion (T.A.). In December 1914 he was commissioned in the Royal Marine Artillery and two months later seconded to the Royal Naval Service. In 1918 he was granted a permanent commission in the R.A.F.

He held a succession of increasingly responsible posts, many of them in India and the Middle East. During the 1939-45 War he was successively A.O.C. in Palestine, Greece, Iraq and Cyprus. On the formation of the

Tactical Air Force in 1943 he was appointed its A.O.C., and a year later he became Deputy Commander of the Mediterranean Allied Tactical Air Force. For the rest of 1944 he worked with that command until, in December, he was appointed Director-General of Personnel (III) at the Air Ministry. He retired in December 1946.

Lt.-Col. L. F. Sloane-Stanley, O.B.E.

As we go to press news has been received that Lionel Francis (" Tod ") Sloane-Stanley died in the General Hospital, Hereford, on September 18, aged 78.

A full obituary notice will be published in the next issue of The Die-Hards.

Lt.-Col. N. G. Gilbert

As reported in the Stop Press to Newsletter No. 2 issued in July, Norman Grant Gilbert died in Catterick Military Hospital on July 30 last.

Since it has not yet been possible to get all the details required, a full obituary notice will be held over until the next issue of The Die-Hards.

Lt.-Col. H. P. F. Young, O.B.E.

Shortly after the publication of the last issue of The Die-Hards news was received that Harold Percy Frederick Young had died in Twyford Abbey Nursing Home, Ealing, on February 6, 1963.

He enlisted in our 1/10th Battalion (T.A.) in 1914 and served with that Battalion in India until the end of 1918 when he was detached for employment with the Labour Directorate at Hillah in Iraq. He served with this organisation for six years, towards the end of which time he received a commission. In 1922 he was seconded to the Iraq Levies, and it was with this Force that he gave many years of devoted service, which ended in 1044 and earned him the award of a richlydeserved O.B.E. He had a wide knowledge of Iraq and Kurdistan and of the people who inhabited those countries.

He retired in 1947.

Major R. P. F. Alexander

Rupert Preston Fane Alexander, the first man to be called up when conscription was introduced in 1939, was killed with his wife in a car crash at Spilsby, Lincs., on September 1, 1963.

He became the first "Militia-man" in June, 1939, and was enlisted into the Regiment at Inglis Barracks.

An article, "First Call-up Man Killed," which appeared in the Daily Telegraph and Morning Post on September 2, 1963, is republished on page 323 of this

Major J. M. Cossar, T.D.

John Mackenzie Cossar, who died recently, was educated at Highgate School and at Cambridge University. He served both in the School Corps and in the Cambridge O.T.C., and was commissioned into the 7th Battalion in 1910 on coming down from Cambridge. He was posted to the Hornsey Company.

He mobilised with the Battalion in August, 1914, and

served with it in Gibraltar from September, 1914, to February, 1915.

He landed with the Battalion in France in March, 1015, and served as a Company Officer until about the summer of 1916, when his health broke down with the strain of operations and he was transferred to the Ministry of Munitions where he served for the remainder of the war, being promoted Brevet Major.

When the Battalion was opened for recruiting in April, 1920, Major Cossar was appointed to command the Company at Tottenham.

A few years later, having successfully launched the Company on its post-1914 career, he retired.

But he did not sever his connection with the Battalion for, thereafter, during very many years (and indeed, until quite recently), he gave unstintedly his time and skill as a chartered accountant to the keeping of the accounts of the Battalion, for which a succession of Commanding Officers have been exceedingly grateful.

Major Cossar was awarded the T.D. in 1923. He will be remembered for his selfless devotion to G. A. H. B. the Battalion and to the Regiment.

Major S. A. Cox, M.B.E., T.D.

Stephen Alfred Cox was born in 1891 and enlisted in the Regiment on January 24, 1910. In the following year he was drafted to India to join the 1st Battalion, and in 1913 he was one of the turnover from the 1st to the 2nd Battalion in Malta.

In September, 1914, he was with the 2nd Battalion in the United Kingdom for about a month before the Battalion joined the B.E.F. in France. Soon after arriving in France he got frost-bite and, at the end of the year, was invalided home, where he was destined to remain for the rest of the war.

In 1919 he rejoined the 2nd Battalion and served with it overseas in Egypt, Singapore and India. He was promoted to R.S.M. in 1926 and those who soldiered with him will remember what a fine example he set to all in his turnout, which was always immaculate.

He was for many years a member of the 2nd Battalion rifle team, and in 1924 won the Southern India Rifle Association Cup. In 1924 and 1925 he was chosen to represent the Regular Army against the Auxiliary Forces, India. Apart from his marksmanship he was useful both at cricket and hockey.

On completion of his colour service in March, 1931, he was granted a T.A. commission as Lieutenant (Q.M.) and posted to the 8th Battalion. He held this appointment until June, 1938, when he was transferred to the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers on taking up employment with the Middlesex T. and A.F. Association

When the 1939-45 War broke out he was called up and was transferred to R.A.O.C. in the rank of Lieutenant (O.E.O.). Later, in 1941, he was appointed Adjutant to 3rd Middlesex Home Guard—an appointment which he held till 1945, when he was released.

On ceasing to belong to the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers in 1949 he was granted the honorary rank of Major (O.E.O.).

He was made a M.B.E. in 1938.

Major A. R. F. Smith

The news of the death of Alan Smith from cancer on July 14, 1963, came as a great shock, because we did not even know that he was ill.

At the time of his death his wife had just given birth to a child, and we offer her our deepest sympathy in her tragic bereavement.

Alan Smith joined the Regiment on a Short Service Commission from the R.A.P.C. on July 3, 1951, and, after a few weeks at the Depot, he went out to join the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong. In December, 1952, he returned to the United Kingdom on the sick list, and in February, 1953, he was posted to 1st Training Battalion R.E.M.E. He returned to the Regimental Depot towards the end of 1955 before joining the 3rd Nigeria Regiment. There he remained until the completion of his tour in January, 1960, when once again he returned to the Depot. Four months later he was appointed S.O.P.T. at Mideast, Aden, and he held this appointment until May, 1962, when, after 11 years' service, his Short Service Commission came to an end.

Major E. L. Heywood represented the Regiment at his funeral which took place at Bournemouth on July 25, 1963.

Capt. R. E. Guest

As reported briefly in the April 1963 issue of The Die-Hards, "Freddie" Guest died at his home at Cheltenham on November 26, 1962.

In 1912 he joined the London Regiment (T.F.) and served with that unit throughout the 1914-18 War. He then went to India as a Cadet destined for the Indian Army but, before joining the 8th Cavalry, he was attached to our 9th Battalion at Bangalore. He actually served in the Indian Army with the 8th Cavalry from 1919 to 1921 and wrote a book on his experiences called 'Indian Cavalryman."

He remained on the Reserve until July 1, 1939, when he was called up and joined the Regiment. He was eventually posted to the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong and was serving with that Battalion when the Colony fell to the Japanese on Christmas Day, 1941. He managed to escape, however, and worked his way back to India, where he received the congratulations. of the Commander-in-Chief. The story of his exploits can be read in another book he wrote called "Escape from the Bloodied Sun." He remained in India for some time before going to Burma.

He relinquished his commission in 1946 on reaching the age limit.

"Freddie" was a tennis enthusiast and, in 1955, when he was over 60 years of age, he won the Regimental singles. He very nearly repeated this feat the following year.

He attended most Regimental functions regularly, but towards the end of his life he suffered from heart

Capt. A. H. Kerr

As reported briefly in the October, 1962 issue of The Die-Hards, Abram Hugo Kerr died on April 19. 1962, at his home at Hadley Wood, Herts.

"Bram," as he was affectionately known to his many friends, was educated at Haileybury and started his business career in shipping offices in LeHavre and Hamburg. On the death of his father in 1936 he took over the family business in London.

He enlisted in the 23rd London Armoured Car Company (Sharpshooters), T.A., on November 10, 1938, and was granted a T.A. commission as a Second-Lieutenant in the 2/8th Battalion on July 30, 1939. He was embodied with the Territorial Army at the outbreak of the 1939-45 War and, for a short time afterwards, was employed on the Intelligence Staff for interrogating P.O.W.s. He served with the 2/8th Battalion in Northern Ireland from the end of 1940 until 1942 when he was posted overseas. He was promoted a War Substantive Captain in December, 1942. He took part in the North African campaign, and in January, 1944, he was at the Anzio landings.

He subsequently made two visits to Australia and New Zealand, and it was after the second visit in 1959 that he became ill. Treatment helped for about a year but, at the end of 1961, Bram lost the use of his legs and became paralysed from the waist down. He saw many specialists and went into hospital for treatment, but nothing could be done for him.

Bram will be remembered for his wonderful sense of humour and friendliness; he never had an ill word for anyone. He always appeared to be cheerful, even at the end when he must have been in great pain, and he never complained.

He was held in great affection by his brother officers of the 2/8th Battalion, and was much missed when he left the Battalion in 1942.

He was married in 1947 and leaves a widow and two children—a boy and a girl—to all of whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

C.S.M. C. W. R. Soper

As notified briefly in the October 1962 issue of *The Die-Hards*, Charles William Roland Soper died suddenly at Portsmouth on May 9, 1962.

He enlisted initially in the Royal Engineers (Emergency Reserve) on April 14, 1921, and was discharged therefrom, on completion of his engagement, three months later. He then enlisted in the Regiment on August 29, 1921, and, on completion of his recruit training, was posted to the 1st Battalion on March 4, 1922. Little did he realise then that he was to do most of his Colour Service with the 57th, but such was the case. It was, in fact, not until he was promoted to warrant rank on July 15, 1939, that he was posted to another Battalion—the newly-formed 2/7th Battalion. He subsequently served on the staff of the 24th Machine Gun Training Centre and with the 30th Battalion until April 3, 1944, when he was discharged as medically unfit.

After leaving the Army he joined the Civil Service and was for some years employed at the Royal Naval Armaments Depot at Gosport. He was later transferred to H.M. Dockyard at Portsmouth, where he worked in the General Office. It was whilst he was at work in the Dockyard that he suffered from a heart seizure from which he died half an hour later.

To his widow and the rest of his family we extend our deepest sympathy.

Sgt. F. Bevis (11541)

Frederick Bevis died on September 1, 1963, at his home at 116 Wimbledon Park Road, London, S.W.18.

He enlisted in the Regiment in 1907 and, after completing his recruit training, served with the 3rd Battalion until the termination of his Colour Service in 1919.

He later served in a Territorial Anti-Aircraft Unit and was discharged in 1942 with the rank of Battery Sergeant-Major.

The funeral took place at St. Michael's Church, Southfields, on September 4, when the Regiment was represented by Major R. W. J. Smith.

Sgt. C. W. Gibson (L/6847 and 6188342)

Charles William Gibson died on April 23, 1963, in his 80th year.

He enlisted in the Regiment on January 10, 1901, and joined the Depot, which was then at Hounslow. After completing his recruit training he was posted to the Depot Staff, on which he served as a Lance-Corporal until April, 1902, when he joined the newlyformed 3rd Battalion at Woollwich, which was then under orders for overseas service with the Army in South Africa. He sailed with the Battalion on May 11, 1902, and eventually disembarked at Cape Town on September 26, 1902, after having spent about four months with the Battalion at St. Helena.

He was promoted Corporal in 1908 whilst the Battalion was in Hong Kong and later that year sailed with it to Singapore. In November, 1911, he was appointed a Lance-Sergeant. At that time he was serving in India where the Battalion had arrived in December, 1910. Re-engaging for his second tour of service to complete 21 years with the Colours on March 8, 1912, he was sent to the School of Musketry at Pachmari in January, 1913, and the following May he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

On the outbreak of war in 1914 he returned home with the Battalion for active service on the Western front. After some five months in France he was invalided home in May, 1915, and was posted to the 6th Battalion at Chatham. Later that year he was posted for service with the West African Frontier Force, and served with the Nigeria Regiment from December, 1915, to March, 1916, when he was posted to the Gold Coast Regiment. He returned to the United Kingdom at the end of the war and was posted to the 5th Battalion in November, 1919.

He was discharged to pension in January, 1922, with an exemplary character and in possession of the Queen's South African Medal, 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. To these he was to add the Defence Medal for the 1939-45 War.

He was buried at St. Pancras Cemetery, East Finchley, on April 30, 1963. Major R. W. J. Smith represented the Regiment at his funeral which was also

attended by a number of comrades who had served with him in the East prior to the 1914-18 War, among them Messrs. C. Cox, M.M., R. W. Hadley, W. Hayes and I. I. T. Harrison.

Sgt. H. C. Hull, M.M. (16166 and 6189209)

On May 26, 1963, there faded away an old soldier who was indeed a character in the Regiment and who will be remembered with affection and cause reminiscence galore wherever "Die-Hards" meet. The name "Busty" Hull is known by all generations of "Die-Hards." With many he served, and with others he was known for his activities in fostering comradeship and his jolly company at Mess socials.

Henry Cecil Hull was born on May 5, 1897, at Ware, Hertfordshire, and enlisted into the Middlesex Regiment aged 17½ years on August 26, 1915, at Redhill, Surrey. He was posted to the 6th Battalion at Chatham where he immediately began hard training. Drill, musketry, route-marches, night-ops, trench digging, bayonet fighting, grenade training and physical training was the order of the day amidst poor rations, general discomfort and rigid discipline. He was soon toughened up, and in 1916 joined the 1st Battalion in France.

The Battalion was a good and proud one and soon inculcated into the newly-joined member that comradeship and loyalty which was to be so prominent during the rest of his life. He settled in to soldiering as a duck takes to water, and until he was wounded in the latter stages of the war was continuously in the trenches. In later years the names of officers such as Col. Elgee, Major Ash and Capt, Belsham were always on his lips, as were the salient points of trench life. That treasured joy after tins of bully, "Machonicie's meat and veg " was one, also cigarettes that are now no more, "Red Hussar," "Drummer," "Robin," "Flag," and the Birdseve and Twist issue of tobacco were made reference to by him when old soldiers met and tumbled from his lips so easily that the listener realised here was a man who really lived his days of youth at war.

In April 1917 he was with the two Companies, "C" and "D," which were isolated for 40 hours. These Companies, with "A" Company of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, were congratulated by the Corps and Divisional Commanders in a special Order. The gallantry of these men, of whom Busty was one, became a by-word.

Again in September 1917, at Ypres, he was at the fight where the Germans laid down one of the heaviest bombardments of the war. Not only were the guns laying into the Middlesex, but the German planes were machine gunning as well when the opportunity offered. It was a day of bravery, the day Sgt. "Pincher" Martin was awarded the D.C.M. where many, including the men who shared his part of the battle, considered he had earned the Victoria Cross. It was at this fight that Busty distinguished himself and on the 30th of the month a parade was held where the Commanding Officer specially promoted N.C.O.s who had performed acts of gallantry on the field. This promotion on the field, referred to in the War Diary, was the origin of the common belief that Busty was a "King's Corporal."

At Passchendaele he was one of the N.C.O.s who

taped the track, under heavy shellfire, where to deviate from the marked lane was to flounder in deep mud in which many a man and horse were drowned. These N.C.O.s were volunteers and not all returned. Those who did had done their job well and "Duck board track" was blessed by many a soldier who survived because of it.

It was the same story throughout the German offensive in March and April 1918. Busty was still fighting hard and enjoying it. At Villers Guislain on September 29, 1918, there was an all-out fight, when the Commanding Officer laconically reported "Much scrapping between Derby Post and Woking Post." One Company—"C"—of which Busty was a Platoon Sergeant, had gone forward and the report says "Position obscure." It was here that Busty won his "Military Medal, and when I made inquiries about the "much scrapping" it was described to me as "like three Kilkenny cats in a barrel." That I can well believe as can any of my readers who have seen Busty in a fighting mood.

Throughout the war—a fighting war for Busty—neither bullet, bayonet nor shell-splinter had caught our "Die-Hard," but six days before the Armistice he was wounded at Bernacourt. He had eight wounds which left him with a fractured right arm and a fractured pelvis. Owing to the prompt action of Sgt. Jimmy Green, D.C.M., and Cpl. Morley his life was saved. Such was the seriousness of his wounds that the Padre, the Rev. Lisle Marsden, came to comfort his dying moments in the cellar of a house where the Dressing Station was placed. Busty was too tough to die during the last week of a long war and was eventually evacuated to England to recover from his wounds.

After recovering from his injuries he was posted, in August 1919, to the reforming 1st Battalion at Clipstone Camp. While he was there the National Railway Strike happened and Busty found himself "Stationmaster" of Bulwell Common Station, Nottingham.

He was one of the Advance Party with R.Q.M.S. Bob Tuck when the Battalion moved from Clipstone to Milton Barracks, Gravesend. It was here the transition from war to peace began. It was not easy for those active service soldiers, who had enlisted as very young men during the war, to settle down. For the pre-war soldier, who was a much more staid and experienced man, it merely meant picking up the reins of a life he had lived before, but to the vounger men it was difficult to adapt themselves to peace-time conditions of life and discipline. Busty was one of these turbulent characters, especially when the demon, rum, had a grip on him. His pet aversion was the civilian who made disparaging remarks about the "low and common soldiery." He was proud of his uniform and prouder still of his Regiment, and anybody who spoke out of turn very quickly went out of count!

In December 1920 he sailed on the Trooper Maine to join the 2nd Battalion in Abbasia Barracks, Cairo. When he was not on riot duty, he was busy moving Nile mud to build up the gardens that so improved the barracks under the direction of the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. F. E. Swainson.

From Egypt he went to Tanglin Barracks, Singapore, and was a member of the guard when the Colonel-in-Chief, the Prince of Wales, visited the Battalion.

The Prince of Wales's visit was commemorated by the Malaya-Borneo Exhibition and there were great festivities at this time that were thoroughly enjoyed by all and sundry, and Busty in particular. Many strange exhibits were shown and creatures and animals of rarity were on view. One animal in after months caused quite a commotion. It was not one on show at the exhibition though. This was the "White Ape of Tanglin." One night a white figure was seen on the branch of a tree. It suddenly gave a bark and disappeared into the higher branches. The married couple who saw it took to their heels and soon raised the alarm. A hue and cry was raised and a thorough search resulted, but no sign of the creature could be found. After that, doors and louvre-windows and shutters were fastened at night and when the white ape appeared a second time, a prowler patrol was organised. The creature would appear, its whiteness showing up sufficiently long enough to scare the daylights out of people and then disappear into the trees. It was never caught, nor seen again after March 14, 1923. On that day Busty sailed for the U.K. on posting to the 1st Battalion! He told me in after years that the scratches from the branches were well worth the tickling of his sense of fun.

In May 1923 he went to Germany with the 1st Battalion, remaining there until October when the Battalion returned home. He enjoyed the fame of the Battalion during the time they were winning so many trophies at Aldershot and with them went to China during the Sino-Japanese troubles. Returning home in December that year, he was posted as an instructor to the Depot. Here he passed on to his recruits that loyalty and esprit de corps which he always practised in his own life. His zeal and knowledge both of his weapons and the handling of men left its mark on all who came in contact with him. To give point to the foregoing, the following extract from a letter sent to me by Mr. T. Christman speaks:

"I first knew Busty one April day 38 years ago when I was conducted to the Depot as a recruit. He was then Corporal Instructor of my squad. His first words were: 'Blimey, do they expect me to make a soldier out of you?' However, after a lot of hard work and sweat, he did! He was a grand fellow and a first-class soldier and comrade. I'll always remember his first lecture to us recruits: 'Now remember. You are hired assassins, your job is to kill or capture, not to get killed as you're no blooming use to us dead. But remember, we are all comrades. Learn to help each other and depend on each other, as real comradeship may mean the difference between victory or defeat'—words which he lived up to all his life. May he forever rest in peace."

He was one of the foremost figures during the celebrations when the 2nd Battalion returned home from Khartoum at the end of their tour of foreign service in December 1931, and were billeted in Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester, with the 1st Battalion. "Seen old Busty?" "Did yer know Busty's here?" and so on you could hear from the 2nd Battalion men after their arrival. Here was the gauge of his popularity, everybody knew him, spoke well of him, and wanted to speak to him. Not once did you hear the query "Busty who?" Everybody knew Busty. If anybody had asked such a question the whole Company would have been aghast and the questioner immediately drummed out of the Regiment as an impostor!

With the 1st Battalion he went to Palestine in December 1931 and from there to Egypt in January 1933.

In December 1934 he returned to England, joining the 2nd Battalion once more in Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester. Here I met him when I brought a squad up from the Depot. In his usual robust manner he greeted me with a cheery shout and a thump on the back. That was the way of Busty. Even people with whom he had disagreed at some time or the other, and who would be under the impression that he thought ill of them, would be greeted handsomely, and honestly, by him and made to feel welcome. Some of the readers of this obituary will have experienced this endearing trait of Busty's, and I am sure remember with appreciation.

On August 25, 1936, he completed his 21 years' service and was discharged to pension. His testimonial says:

"An honest, loyal, trustworthy, efficient and wellmannered man. A good instructor, energetic, hard working, self-reliant and full of personality. A good leader who handles his men well."

That testimonial was written by a shrewd Commanding Officer who always spoke to the point and did not write well of any who ill-deserved praise.

In civilian life Busty started work as a carpenter, a trade he studied at the Vocational Training Centre. He improved and prospered. From being a carpenter he augmented his knowledge and practised as a surveyor. He then took employment with a large firm dealing with the ravages of dry-rot and woodworm. Such was his ability, he was promoted and eventually became area manager and overseer of different gangs in the London area.

All this time he was an unpaid publicity agent for his beloved "Die-Hards." Always a strong supporter of anything to help and for the good of the Regiment, he strode into the breach when the Mill Hill Branch of the "Die-Hards" Club was falling on grim times. He would not let the Branch be closed down when it was suggested that it should be by people who lacked his initiative and drive, and saw it rise again to a flourishing concern. Without his firmness and faith, I fear it would be a different and less efficient club than it now is.

He pushed and worried everybody until the Association eventually had a Standard he had set his heart on, and rose from a bed of sickness to attend the Presentation Parade. When the Brand and Drums Branch was formed, he immediately helped to support it and said: "Here are all you Bandsmen and Drummers, why don't you form your own band?" He

was always willing to make any practical suggestion and get on with making it work, overcoming any difficulty that may arise.

On April 27 this year he attended his last meeting as Secretary of the Mill Hill Branch; on May 12 he was on parade as escort to the Standard and at last saw one of his ambitions fulfilled. The following week he attended our Albuhera Dinner and many people noticed how ill he looked, but his indomitable spirit would not let him cancel his attending any function connected with the Regiment. He was still suffering from the exertion of the march the week previously. He knew well that he should not march after the parade but he would not quit. When I remonstrated with him, he said, "Look here Dick, the name is 'Die-Hard' and that's all there is to it." That was practising what he preached. He was not a man to pay lip-service only to a creed, he did the job thoroughly and completely.

The following week we held our monthly meeting—May 25—and he telephoned to say that he thought he would stay at home and rest. After his evening meal, which he said was his most enjoyable for some time, he retired to bed.

In the early hours of the morning of the 26th—00.50 hours—he faded away. That valiant heart had stopped. Shall we see his like again? I doubt it.

On the 28th I went to his house and laid the Regimental flag over the lower part of his coffin, where he was lying with the look you only see in peaceful death. Betty turned to him as I draped the flag and said, "There you are, darling, that's what you have been waiting for." She then turned to Dollie and myself and said, "He's happy now. He knows it's there." And I believe he did.

The next day, the 29th, he was buried at Battersea New Cemetery, Mortlake. At the funeral were a number of his old comrades who were able to be there at the very short notice it was only possible to give. The Regiment was represented by Col. F. Walden, the Officers' Club by Major E. L. Heywood, the 1st Battalion by Capt. P. Donovan, the W.O.s and Sergeants, 1st Battalion, by R.S.M. R. Dodkins, whilst various branches of the "Die-Hards" Clubs were represented by the following: Bill Bratby, Brewer Drane, Bob Ferguson, Johnny Firth, Mr. and Mrs. R. Glover, Drum-Major Holdford, Bob Hadley, Tom Lowe, Bill Mealyer, Major P. Newman, Mr. and Mrs. Palmer (and daughter), Mr. and Mrs. G. Pocock, John Soden, whilst Mr. R. Cox, M.M., was represented by his son. In all there were 49 people in the chapel during the service. The floral tributes were many and included those from the Regiment, the Officers' Club, All Ranks 1st Battalion, the "Die-Hards" Club (Mill Hill Branch), Major and Mrs. Peasley, Pat and Percy Newman, and Nell, "Pedler" and Catherine (Palmer).

After the Padre had read the service at the graveside, that long and beautiful call "Last Post" was sounded by Drum-Major Holdford. Knuckles were showing white where men were gripping tightly to hold their feelings, jaw muscles showed where others were clenching their teeth, some people wept unashamedly, and as the long

notes trailed over the trees, so did our thoughts go with him—back in our memories, different with each individual, of the various incidents in the life of our comrade who must have been looking down with a kindly eye upon us all there below.

Then the "Arouse" to remind us that whatever day comes to an end, there is always a tomorrow. Those tomorrows will be finer if we all foster that strict bond of comradeship practised by our loyal comrade and great "Die-Hard," Busty Hull.

R. W. J. S.

Bdsm. J. J. Goulding (6198760)

John Joseph Goulding died on April 14, and to his family we extend out deepest sympathy.

He enlisted in the Regiment as a Boy in 1929 and saw service in India, China, Egypt, Singapore and Palestine

It is hoped, when more details of his service are available, to publish a full obituary notice in *The Die-Hards* of this popular and well-known character.

Pte. E. J. Fenton (6206355)

Ernest John Fenton died on March 13, 1963, in the Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, Richmond.

He had been a patient in this admirable institution since January 25, 1946, and although spending the last years of his life on a rigid stretcher was a man of cheerful mien and great mental alertness.

Joining the Territorial Army on April, 26, 1939, he was posted to the 2/7th Battalion of the Regiment when it was formed the following month. Embodied on September 2, with the remainder of the Battalion, his first soldiering was as a sentry at various aerodromes, etc., there being no machine gun equipment available for issue

It was in 1940 that the illness overtook him which was eventually to be a cause of his death. On May, 7, 1941, he was discharged as "Ceased to fulfil army physical requirements". Later becoming paralysed in the lower portion of his body, he was admitted to the Star and Garter Home where he continued to pursue his hobby of philately. He had an interesting collection of stamps and was very helpful to his fellow patients as well as running a stall when the "At Home" was held. He was also an ardent admirer of the English countryside and would call visitors' attention to the beauty of the view at Richmond.

He died a young man, aged only 44 years, and was buried in the Soldiers' Plot in Richmond Cemetery on March 21, 1963.

Besides his mother and other family mourners, Mr. Darby, an elderly friend, who had served with the 17th (Footballers') Battalion, paid his respects. The Regiment was represented by Major R. W. J. Smith. R. W. J. S.

Pte. J. V. Jacobson (6189238)

John Valdama Jacobson was born on March 18, 1897. He enlisted in the Regiment on December 4, 1915, and in August the following year went out to the B.E.F. in France where, except for two months in the U.K. and four in Italy, he remained until September 1018.

The Die-Hards

After nearly a year at home, he went to Egypt with the 2nd Battalion in August, 1919, and moved with them to Singapore and India, coming home at the end of 1928. From then onwards until his discharge in 1937 he served in the U.K. with both the 1st and 2nd Battalions.

On leaving the Army he joined H.M. Excise and Revenue, and for many years was in charge of a Customs launch; altogether he did about 15 years with them. In 1953 he became ill and he had been an invalid ever since.

He leaves a widow and two sons—one of whom is in the Navy and the other in the Air Force.

Pte. G. Poulson

George Poulson, who was Officers' Mess silverman in the 2nd Battalion at Ahmednagar, India, died on August 17, 1963.

To his wife and children we extend our deepest sympathy.

Major R. W. J. Smith represented the Regiment at his funeral, which took place at Putney Vale Cemetery on August 22.

Mrs. Cedric Smith

We regret to announce the death on August 14, 1963, of Gwendoline Hemsley (nee Longrigg), wife of Colonel S. Cedric Smith, T.D., a former Commanding Officer of the 7th Battalion (T.A.).

Mrs. Nunn

We regret to announce the death on August 5, 1963, at Newmarket General Hospital of Annie Dorothy (Dorrie), beloved wife of Major F. J. Nunn, M.C., late The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), and dear mother of Una.

CORRESPONDENCE

From Major-General G. P. L. Weston, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Director of Land/Air Warfare.

THE WAR OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.1.
May 30, 1963.

DEAR SIR.

During the early, and bitterly cold, part of this year I was fortunate enough to be given an official liaison visit to Australia and New Zealand and armed with some very helpful notes from Major R. W. J. Smith, I did my best to make as many researches as possible into local connections with the Regiment. These may possibly be of some interest to your readers.

My first contact was within 24 hours of my reaching Perth in Western Australia where, as a result of a TV interview which I had to give on arrival, I was visited in my hotel by Lt.-Col. C. C. Musselwhite who served in both regular Battalions. He appeared to be thriving and is now employed as the State Prime Minister's Parliamentary Agent.

My next point of contact was at Brisbane in Queensland. There, as many of your readers know, are many connections with the 57th who served in Australia from 1824-31. Brisbane, then called Moreton Bay, was originally a convict settlement and its first commandant in 1826 was Capt. Patrick Logan of the 57th after whom the nearby Logan River was named. He was a great explorer of the local countryside and was eventually murdered by natives (although one story has it that he was killed either by the convicts or at their instigation) on October 18, 1930, on a final survey expedition when the 57th were warned for transfer to India.

There are varying accounts of Logan's personality varying from that of a tyram and bully to that of a strict disciplinarian—the latter is probably the most accurate. He died in poor financial straits and his widow did not succeed in obtaining a pension until 13 years after his death.

There are pictures of various ranks of the 57th in the local Command H.O. Officers' Mess and two of the buildings built by the convicts under the supervision of the 57th still exist—I enclose photographs.

When I got to New Zealand I was lucky enough to find that our affiliated Regiment, The Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment, which is of course equivalent to one of our T.A. Battalions, was at their annual camp. They, or rather the Taranaki half of the Regiment, is the only New Zealand unit to bear the honour "New Zealand" on their colours and the Band of the 57th played on the occasion of the presentation of their first set. They fought alongside the 57th at Kaitaki Pau on March 25, 1864—the 57th themselves being stationed in New Zealand from 1860-67. Our affiliation with the Taranaki half of the Regiment was one of the first to be established when such connections were introduced in 1913, and very appropriately this year is of course the 50th anniversary of that occasion so I was in person able to offer the congratulations of and deliver messages from General Willoughby.

I was unfortunately unable to spare the time to visit St. Mary's Church, New Plymouth, where there are a number of graves of 57th soldiers, and a hatchment on the walls of the church in memory of the Regiment, but I did visit the H.Q.'s drill hall of the Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment at Waranuci (I think I may have got the spelling wrong!) on my way to their camp. It is much like our own T.A. drill halls.

In camp I visited the men on training and addressed them. An excellent guest night was held in my honour in the evening which was attended by the Colonel of the Regiment, Col. Armstrong, who subsequently came to England for Princess Alexandra's wedding as she is their Colonel-in-Chief and was himself entertained at our Depot. Two former Commanding Officers of the Taranaki Regiment were present and also Major Urquhart who had recently visited our Depot and had been presented with a copy of Lady Butler's picture for the Regiment. He hadn't actually handed this over and intended to bring it with him so that I could formally present it—however he forgot to put it in his car! (a lapse of memory which I have so often made).

At the dinner I was able to inspect the Colours of both halves of the Regiment. On the Taranaki Colour was the Prince of Wales' feathers in all four corners—surely they are a symbol of the 77th and what they I

feel should have had was the laurel wreath and 57.
The new colours are to have the Royal Hampshire
Rose in one corner (they are allied to the Wellington
and West Coast part of the Regiment); our symbol in
the second; and the symbol of their own two Regiments

in the other two corners (Mt. Egmont for the Taranaki and a Phoenix rising from the ashes for the Wellington side). They are to be presented next year—perhaps our

Colonel can get funds to attend?

The combined regiment is commanded by a Major Morris who also holds a permanent instructorship appointment at one of their training schools. In addition the Regiment has to pay itself for its new colours so you can see that the dead hand of the treasury is even more potent in New Zealand than with us.

I had hoped to visit Lt.-Col. W. W. Jefferd, one of my own ex-C.O.'s in the 77th, but again distance and time beat me. I, however, had very nice letters from him—both he and his sister, who still keeps house for him, are apparently very well.

Yours faithfully, G. P. L. WESTON.

From Brigadier C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C. Headquarters,

Commonwealth Liaison Mission,
United Nations Command, Korea.
September 4, 1963.

DEAR SIR,

I am enclosing an account of a trip that I made in August to Japan, and some photos to go with it. You may think it is worth publishing in *The Die-Hards*, but I shall not be in the least hurt if you decide against it!

It really was an odd sensation to re-visit Kobe and I am glad to have done it, but I shall not be returning there

You will probably know that the Lisbon Maru survivors always wanted to find out the name of the captain of the submarine that sunk us. Quite by chance, I have got the details. I came by them at a dinner that I attended here given by the Society of American Military Engineers, at which I was the guest speaker. One of the audience, an American civilian now working for the U.S. Army in Korea, was a member of the crew of the sister submarine that sank us. He told me that our sub was the U.S.S. Trigger, and the captain was Lt. Commander "Moon" Chappell, U.S.N. Apparently the two U.S. submarines were hunting in the vicinity of Shanghai, and were nearing the end of their torpedoes, when they sighted the Lisbon Maru. They shadowed her for most of the night, and then, at dawn, Trigger fired three torpedoes, hitting with two. They then watched at periscope depth during the day, and surfaced at night, still under the impression that the ship was a normal Jap troop transport. They saw the Jap troops taken off, and then returned to base. Only when they got back did they hear, from Tokyo Rose broadcast, that they had sunk a ship carrying a large number of P.O.W.s.

It really is a small world, and it was fascinating to hear this man talk about the sinking, which was still very clear in his memory. I am sorry to say that Chappell

and the crew of the *Trigger* were all lost early the following year from enemy action.

Very best wishes to you all.

CHRIS MAN.

(Note.—The account "Kobe Re-visited" is on page 320.—EDITOR.)

From Col. Sir Thomas P. Butler, Bt., D.S.O., O.B.E., J.P.

Constable's Office, H.M. Tower of London, London, E.C.3. September 2, 1963.

DEAR SIR.

During the next few years it seems probable that we shall have a number of vacancies in the Body of Yeoman Warders at H.M. Tower of London caused

by retirement due to age.

I am particularly anxious that their successors shall be men of at least equal merit and distinction. In the enclosed *pro-forma* are set out the qualifications required, and other information. I would be most grateful if you would bring this to the notice of any likely candidates who should lose no time in applying to have their names registered on our Waiting List.

I also enclose a list of those at present serving in the Body and their Regiments as I feel this may be of interest. You will notice that there are at present no members of your Regiment serving with the Body of

Yeomen Warders at the Tower.

Yours sincerely, (Sgd.) T. P. BUTLER, Colonel.

Resident Governor and Major of the Tower.

(Note.—Details of the qualifications required can be obtained from the Secretary of the Regimental Association.—EDITOR.)

From Mr. C. E. Goodall

5 Hobb Lane, Hedge End, Southampton. Thursday, August 8, 1963.

DEAR SIR,

May I respectfully ask if you would grant a little space and kindly make some reference in the *Die-Hards* journal to the recent death of the late No. G9697 Pte. J. L. Pitman, on May 7, at Nottingham, after a long illness following a stroke.

He was a very old friend and comrade. We served together in the same platoon in the 1st Battalion in the 1914-18 war from 1915 until wounded on the Somme at Bazentin.

We did not meet again until 1941, a surprise meeting, as I did not know that he had been commissioned in the Sherwood Foresters, and served with them in U.K. and afterwards in India till again demobilised.

I last saw him in March this year and did not know of his death until after his funeral. I then received a letter from his wife, informing me that he had passed

I regret that I am unable to give more detail of his service.

Many thanks.

Yours faithfully, (signed) C. E. GOODALL.

The Die-Hards

355

What you say NOW vanishes into thin air and can NEVER BE HEARD AGAIN. Yes, even the Sgt. Major's "bellow" on Parade . . .

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THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

The Middlesex Regiment



(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

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President: Maj.-Gen. J. E. F. Willoughby, C.B.E.

Chairman: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L.

Vice-chairman: Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, D.L.

Secretary: Col. F. Walden.

BRANCHES

Branch	Hon. Secretary	Meetings	1 mcc
	Mr. F. Hutchings, 2 Longhook Gardens, Grange Estate, Northolt, Middlesex.	Monthly, on 2nd Friday.	T. A. Centre, Churchfield Road, Ealing, W.13.
Enfield	Major A. T. Jones, M.B.E., T.D., 4 Morley Hill, Enfield, Middlesex.	Monthly, on 1st Friday.	T.A. Centre, Old Park Avenue, Enfield, Middlesex.
Hong Kong	Major W. T. J. Lane, M.B.E., H.Q., Royal Hong Kong De- fence Force, B.F.P.O.1.	Annually, during the third week in January.	R.H.K.D.F. Volunteer Centre, Queen's Road, Central, Hong Kong.
Hornsey	Mr. C. Holdford, B.E.M. T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.	Quarterly, usually on a Wednesday.	T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.
Hounslow	Mr. J. Castree, 20 Heldman Close, Heath Road, Hounslow, Middlesex.	Monthly, on 2nd Friday.	T.A. Centre, Hanworth Road, Hounslow, Middlesex.
Mill Hill	Mr. E. C. Colebeck, Belmont, Chilton Road, Edgware, Middlesex.	Monthly, on last Saturday.	T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
Uxbridge	Mr. J. R. Bell, M.B.E., 88 High Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex.	Four per year, at irregular intervals, plus an annual dinner.	T.A. Centre, Whitehall Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex.
2/7th Battalion	Major R. E. Robotham, M.C., T.D., 39 Cyprus Avenue, Finchley, N.3.	Yearly, on 1st Friday in October.	Varies from year to year. Dinner Club only.
9th Battalion	Mr. H. J. Fisher, 180 Purves Road, Kensal Rise, N.W.10.	Monthly, on last Thursday.	T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
12th Battalion Home Guard	Capt. S. R. Bonnamy, 3 Claremont Road, Ealing, W.13.	Two per year, on 1st Friday in May and November.	Varies.
Bandsmen and Drummers	Mr. A. R. Drane, 11 John Dee House, Mortlake, S.W.14.	Quarterly, on the third Sat- urday in March, June and September, and on the last Saturday in December.	47th Signal Regt. T.A., (Middlesex Yeomanry), Duke of Yorks H.Q., Chelsea, S.W.3.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Regimental Association will be held at Seymour Hall, London, W.r., on Friday, November 29, 1963, at 8 p.m.

At the A.G.M. alterations to the rules approved by the Executive Committee will be submitted for confirmation. Particulars of these alterations appear on page 369 of this issue.

Lord Lieutenant's Appeal for Widows Flatlets, Albuhera Close, Enfield

The following is the second list of subscribers to the above appeal, corrected to September 20, 1963:—

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			£	S
Regimental Headquarters (half of net pr	oceeds	of		
Regimental Derby Sweep)			81	12
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LtCol. and Mrs. G. L. Fox (covenanted)				0
Major H. Sherwood (covenanted)			15	0
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Mr. A. H. Wallace			5	5
Major P. B. Allott			5	C
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Major Sir Arthur Lewey			5	C
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MRS. BROOKS

On account of changes brought about on the formation of Regimental Headquarters, Mrs. Brooks ceased from the end of last April to be the assistant to the secretary, after 16½ years of faithful and devoted service to the Regimental Association. She will be sadly missed, and her very wide knowledge of welfare matters and of the general working of the Association will be keenly felt for some time to come.

HONG KONG BRANCH

As always, news from our Branch is very short indeed, but nevertheless we enjoy the pleasure of having our notes in the Journal.

Our annual celebration took place as in past years, with past and present members of The Middlesex Regiment celebrating Albuhera Day in true form.

On Thursday, May 16, 1963, we attended a short ceremony at the Cenotaph, where Lt.-Col. D. C. L. Nolda, O.B.E., laid a wreath; also, by kind permission of Lt.-Col. K. C. P. Ive, 17th/21st Lancers, Commanding Officer The Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers), the flag of The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) was flown at our H.Q. This was followed up in the evening by nine "Die-Hards" dining in the Officers' Mess of the Royal Hong Kong Defence Force, and by all accounts the evening was well and truly celebrated.

As our guest on this occasion we were pleased to welcome the Commanding Officer of the Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers), Lt.-Col. K. C. P. Ive, 17th/21st Lancers.

It was also a pleasure to have with us on this occasion Mr. A. J. Hodson ("Darkie"), an old member of The Middlesex Regiment, who arrived in Hong Kong at 1600 hours on May 16, 1963, from Bangkok, just to spend Albuhera Day with his old comrades.

On Sunday, May 19, 1963, we had our annual church service in the cathedral, where Major W. T. J. Lane, M.B.E., laid a wreath at the foot of the Regimental War Memorial and turned a page in the Roll of Honour.

After our usual gathering in the R.H.K.D.F. Sergeants' Mess, and a few discussions about old times, the afternoon was spent visiting Little Sai Wan and Stanley Cemeteries, at each of which a short service was held by the Rev. J. W. Foster, B.E.M., and a wreath laid. Col. H. A. de Botelho, M.B.E., E.D., Hon. Colonel of the Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers), who is a great supporter of our Association, laid the wreath at Little Sai Wan and Major W. T. J. Lane, M.B.E., at Stanley.

During the past few months we have had to say farewell to two of our members, Mr. D. H. Christopher and Mr. B. Twort, who have left the Colony for Australia and New Zealand respectively. We wish them both the best of luck in their new venture.

The Hong Kong Branch of the Association sends best wishes to all Old Comrades in the Association at

W. T. J. LANE

HORNSEY BRANCH

March on. That was the word of command given to all ex-members of the Regiment who took part in the colourful scene on Horse Guards Parade on May 12, 1062

Hundreds of feet stepped out to the Old Comrades march played by the 1st Battalion Band and Drums—a grand sight with many memories which did not fail to register on many faces.

The presentation of the Standard was carried out with military precision and the parade ended with a wonderful laid-on buffet at Wellington Barracks.

Our Rifle Club maintains its stalwarts who are still reaching for the "ton up" with near misses. In the future we are hoping to hold a few competitions so as to further our own shooting abilities.

Our get-togethers on Wednesday and Saturday nights are somewhat disheartening as far as members are concerned. The holiday period has a lot to do with it, so we still look forward to seeing our members and their ladies in the very near future.

It was a very sad day when we heard that "Busty" Hull had passed away. He was a man who had really worked for the Association, and his death leaves another gap within the ranks of the true "Die-Hards."

Within our own branch we have lost, and I say this with the deepest regret and sorrow, a wonderful lady who shared every activity within the club and Battalion, known to everyone at Hornsey as "EDE."

C. HOLDFORD.

MILL HILL BRANCH

Since the publication of the last "Die-Hards" Journal there has been a change of officials due to the retirement of the Chairman and Treasurer and the ill-health of the Secretary. The office holders are now as shown:

Chairman: Major R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E.

Secretary: Mr. E. C. Colebeck.

Treasurer: Mr. S. T. Turner.

Committee: Messrs. W. D. Bratby, R. H. Ferguson, A. Mason and L. Shrubb, M.M.

The late Secretary was Busty Hull whose obituary will be found elsewhere in this edition and of whom so much can be written and said. The best we, his successors in office, can do to show our appreciation of his efforts, is to live up to the first object of the Association,

efforts, is to live up to the hrst object of the Association, i.e. "To foster a bond of comradeship between all who are serving or who have ever served in the Middlesex Regiment and promote esprit de corps." That is the intention and promise.

To members of any other Branch of the Association who may be able to visit us on the last Saturday of the month we offer a hearty welcome to call in at the Drill Hall, Edgware, and give us the pleasure of your company. Your wives, sweethearts, Dear Old Dutch or donahs are equally welcome with you.

donahs are equally wetcome with your 18, 96 people sitting down, and our uniformed members ranged in age from 91 years (Bill Meachem, now an In-Pensioner at the Royal Hospital) to 18 years of age (Junior Bdsm. Hull, now with the 1st Battalion in Gibraltar). On the distaff side we had Mrs. Clelland, an octagenarian, and Mrs. Chillery whose son served his time with the Regiment and who was born in it whilst her husband was serving. Not only is she a wife and mother of the Regiment, she is also a daughter—or daughter-in-law. Her father-in-law, 391 T. Chillery, joined the 57th as far back as 1870.

Of the Albuhera Parade on May 12 I can add little to the article already covering the proceedings, except to say how proud everybody looked and how upright was the carriage of those whose age permitted them to be bent, and how I enjoyed seeing the swagger of the younger members too. This was especially noticeable

when the Band played the Regimental Marches. Up came the heads as soon as the opening bars were recognised and there was added elasticity to the step. During the inspection they played the march of the 6th (Special Reserve) Battalion, "The Soldiers Chorus," and one of the spectators near me who had arrived too late to fall in with the parade was singing, quietly, the words as I last heard them when the Battalion was marching up Chatham Hill. Something like "Old soldiers like extraordinary lumps of duff."

Visitors who live a long distance away from Edgware continue to drop in to see us and it gave a number of the people who had served so long in Ahmednagar great joy when Archie Baxter, who lives in Colchester, called to spend a couple of hours with old friends.

It is a pity we cannot arrange accommodation as it was at times possible to do when we were at Mill Hill. Immediate bookings cannot be made at the Union Jack Club for ex-Service personnel; they must have 48 hours' notice. This is worth remembering when any member is coming to London and fears he cannot make his way home the same evening. I shall always be pleased to help out with information if any reader wishes for more details

Once more, the Regiment is stationed on "the Rock." where the 57th began its foreign service 207 years ago and where we lost our first casualty in action. Many of our members have memories of this station when there with the 4th Battalion, and of being inspected by our Colonel-in-Chief, the Prince of Wales. I trust the Battalion will have a happy tour and send greetings to the members of our Branch who are serving from all of us at home R. W. I. S.

BANDSMEN AND DRUMMER'S BRANCH

Since our last notes were printed, we have lost a very good friend and member in Busty Hull, M.M., one of the best known and liked men in the Regiment throughout his service and the O.C.A. from then onwards. We have also now lost George Poulson who died in August. One of our number (though he never actually joined the branch), Joe Goulding, also died in April and details of his service will (probably) be found in the obituary column of this Journal. Those of you who served with him will recall that he was "Mog" Goulding's brother and a number of our members have written to pay tribute to his memory.

My latest news of John Rolfe is that he is out of hospital again and another old friend who has been under the surgeons, Pop Stretton, is back at work now. I am told that our latest "casualty" is Freddy Bugden but I have little detail so far.

I am pleased to say that slow but steady progress is being made towards the formation of an Association Band and Corps of Drums. Progress is slow perhaps so far, but permissions have to be obtained to use the necessary places for practice, and certain equipment. The question of holidays, T.A. camps and training also come into this but it is hoped that a meeting of those interested will be held in October, by which time we hope that we can get moving.

So far the Branch meetings this year have been very

thinly attended. Our next is September 21 and I am hoping that Hounslow Branch and others will join us on that evening. Before the attendance fell off, we had one meeting at which Les Price played the piano and there was some singing. This has brought promises from other members, who still play, to bring in instruments and music. We have also been promised a set of (dance) drums and a saxophone. The latter has not arrived yet but I understand that the drums will be there on September 21. All we need now is the enthusiasm to make our own meetings better and brighter for ourselves and our guests.

I would like to see the Association Band successfully formed, as it was originally Busty Hull's idea, but a small musical combination at the branch would give it that "something" which would bring members in I have already had a second lounge put at our disposal for the last two meetings but attendance did not warrant its use at the time but, if we can improve on this in the future, the second lounge, which is on the same floor and adjacent to our present club room, would enable those who come to enjoy a quiet evening of "bindling" over old times to be separate from the "youngsters" who prefer something more "hectic." Although there is a bar in both rooms, I don't think that we can have both open but I have little doubt that I can get over any inconvenience this may cause.

Several of our members must be blessing this (present) spell of sunshine after a very trying winter which brought misfortune to at least two members.

An old friend to many of us, Joe Hanks, was unfortunate enough to fracture his thigh but is now about again. I called on him last evening and, inspired by one of "Smudgers" monthly letters, he told me that he was Col. Ward's groom in Alderney when he was posted to be Commandant of The Royal Military School of Music (which posting he did not accept in order to remain with the battalion at the outbreak of the 14-18 War). He tells me that Col. Ward was very fond of playing the piano. I did not know that Charlie Trowt was also a footballer until this visit, but Joe tells me that Charlie played for Brentford whilst a student at Kneller Hall, and "Boss" Barter was a member of the Regimental team. Joe also speaks of a Drm. Leeden who, he says, was the finest silver bugler ever. Apparently his range on the bugle was one note more than any other bugler could reach and, when the battalion was in Cambridge Barracks, Woolwich, the visitors would come to hear him play "The Last Post" when he was on guard. Well as regards to a bugler's range, Joe never heard Charlie Gatehouse play "The General's Salute" for the first time. We were in Vilad Camp near Ahmednagar at the time, I believe, and Charlie (then still on boy's service) doing his first guard. The band were practising at one end of the camp under one of those huge trees which God was good enough to put in that very hot country, when through the camp rode the "General" with accompanying staff. B. M. Clibbens called the band to attention, gave his salute, and then we waited to hear Charlie "sound off." At the first note I saw the B.M. wince, Charlie had started off too high and any bugler

will know what this meant. However, Charlie wasn't going to be beaten and, with purple face, neck veins standing proud and bursting lungs, he finished that call. The general finished his ride through the camp, turned his horse and returned past the guard tent. I think he took a good look at young Charlie and the next day his complimentary remarks appeared in "orders." I believe he complimented Charlie indirectly also but that call hit a new "high" in General's Salutes.

" RPEWER "

1/7th BATTALION (1939-45)

The Battalion mobilised at the T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8, in September, 1939. They returned in force (107 of them) for their first Annual Dinner on Saturday, March 30, 1963. It was an outstanding success.

The idea of such a gathering had been vaguely talked about for some time, but things did not begin to happen till three stalwarts really went into action, namely, R.S.M. W. Knight, M.B.E., Mr. D. R. Sankey and Mr. E. Johnson. Their activities culminated in a meeting at which Brigadier Rackham was elected Chairman and the three stalwarts members of the Dinner Committee. In the early stages the response was rather slow because we had lost touch with so many of our ex-members. It was then that Brigadier Rackham came into his own; he went "into action" and from then on there was no looking back.



1/7th BATTALION (1939-45) DINNER COMMITTEE Left to right: Mr. E. Johnson, Mr. W. Knight, M.B.E. Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Mr. D. Sankey

The Dinner Committee, under the leadership of Brigadier Rackham, were entirely responsible for all the arrangements. They were well rewarded by the result. We are all deeply indebted to them and thank them most sincerely.

The Reunion took the form of a dinner and a long period of REMINISCENCE-which was wonderful and did all of us so much good to be there.

We sent loyal messages to, and received a gracious reply from, Her Majesty the Queen.

We remembered our Fallen Comrades, the "Last Post" and "Reveille" being impressively sounded by our friend, Drum-Major Holdford.

We had messages of good cheer and remembrance from the Colonel of the Regiment, Field Marshal Lord Montgomery, Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks, Major-Gen. Douglas Wimberley, and many of our comrades.

Each Commanding Officer took wine with those who had served with him in the various campaigns. It is of interest, and a great source of satisfaction to all, to record that all our Commanding Officers, except Col. Douglas Parker, were present. It was only because Col. Parker had to receive a V.I.P. on that very day which prevented him from coming from Cyprus, where he is Deputy Commander, British Forces. They are all "MUSTS" for next year and many years to come.

We were delighted to have with us, as our guests, Col. Walden, Secretary of the Regimental Association, Lt.-Col. Webber, Commanding the 5th Battalion, Major Leighton and Capt. Beaumont of the 5th Battalion, Major Percy Newman and, last but by no means least, Col.-Sgt. Palmer and Cpl. Laird from 51st (Highland) Division.

It is intended that this should be an annual event. The date for next year has been provisionally fixed for Saturday, March 14, 1964. Everyone please note!

We cannot end this report without acknowledging with our sincere thanks and appreciation, the wholehearted co-operation and help which we received from so many individuals. We cannot enumerate them all, but we must mention Col. Walden and his staff at Regimental Headquarters, Lt.-Col. Webber, Capt. Beaumont, Drum-Major Holdford and many members of the 5th Battalion.

B. B. R.

2 10th BATTALION, THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT O.C.A. (1914-18)

The 35th Reunion Dinner of this unit was held on May 18 last under the chairmanship of Mr. W. D. Cornish; an attendance of 64 was recorded. Amongst the guests were Col. F. Walden and the Rev. G. A. Lewis Lloyd, M.B.E., B.A. Next year's dinner will celebrate the 50th anniversary of this Battalion in 1914 and a record attendance is anticipated.

The Annual Service of Remembrance will be held on Armistice Sunday (3 p.m.), at Chiswick Parish Church, The Mall, W.4, where the Battalion's Colours are lodged and the memorial erected. Details can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, A. D. Scudamore, "Cleveland," Byes Lane, Sidford, Sidmouth, Devon.

Our attention has been drawn to a memorial tablet erected in St. Thomas' Church, Exeter, commemorating an action in which "B" Company of this Battalion was involved in December, 1917, which earned them an official Mention in the Dispatches of the Commanderin-Chief, General Sir Edmund Allenby. The tablet reads as follows:

TO THE GLORY OF GOD and in loving memory of 2nd Lieut. James T. Pastfield, B.A.(Oxon). Killed in action in France, December 21st, 1914, aged 23. He lost his life in going to the rescue of a brother officer when himself wounded.

The Die - Hards

Also of Lieut, Victor Pastfield

Killed in France, September 9th, 1918, aged 20. He took his brother's place, and on being attached to the Imperial Camel Corps took part in the capture of Beersheba and Gaza. On rejoining The Middlesex Regiment during operations that led to the fall of Iericho and Ierusalem, his company, holding a position of vital importance in the attack on the Holy City, was surrounded by 700 Turks supported by Mountain Artillery, Although without artillery support, it offered a most gallant resistance, holding out till, after two days, relief came. In March 1018 he was ordered with his Regiment to the Western Front, where he fell

on the battlefield of Lens. The above were the sons of John Robinson Pastfield, and Olive, his wife, for 27 years resident in this parish. "THEY DIED THAT WE MIGHT LIVE" LEST WE FORGET

MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT GUILDHALL, WESTMIN-STER, S.W.I. ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1963

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Lt.-Col. I. R. Burrows, O.B.E. (Vice-Chairman), Brigadier A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, D.L., Col. W. D. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Major C. N. Clayden, Major P. W. Galvin, Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major E. L. Heywood, Major P. F. Newman, M.B.E., Capt. S. R. Bonnamy, R.S.M. H. Boseley, R.S.M. R. Dodkins, Col. F. Walden (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., I.P., Col. S. F. Hedgecoe, Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O.,

1. Election of Co-opted Members

In accordance with Rule 21 (d) it was proposed by Lt.-Col. Fox and seconded by Lt.-Col. Burrows that the following co-opted members be re-elected to the Executive Committee:

Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, D.L. Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E. Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D.

Carried nem. con.

2. New Members

(a) Before proceeding further with the Agenda the Chairman welcomed the following new members to the Executive Committee:

Brigadier A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E. Capt. S. R. Bonnamy R.S.M. H. Boselev

(b) The Chairman also welcomed Major P. W. Galvin, who was commanding the 1st Battalion in the temporary absence abroad of Lt.-Col. F. de R. Morgan, M.C., and was attending as an ex officio member.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

(a) The Chairman drew attention to Minute II (Branch Accounts) of the previous meeting held on October 25, 1962, and stated that:

(i) Owing to a typist's error, the Mill Hill Branch accounts were shown as for the period October 1, 1959, to December 31, 1960, instead of for the period October 1, 1959, to December 31,

> He proposed, therefore, that the second sentence of the first paragraph should be deleted.

(ii) As Major Newman's statement at that meeting had been misunderstood, it was proposed to alter the wording in the second paragraph to read as follows:

" Major Newman said that the reason for the Mill Hill Branch accounts being rendered for a period earlier than the remainder was because he understood from the previous Secretary that he did not want accounts but only a statement of charitable grants made by the branch."

The proposals in (i) and (ii) above were unanimously agreed to, and the necessary alterations to Minute 11 were made and initialled by the Chairman.

(b) The necessary alterations having been made to Minute 11, the minutes of the meeting held on October 25, 1962, were passed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Secretary's Report

(a) Membership. Brigadier Rackham said that he was very happy to see that efforts made by Cpl. Quinn at the Home Counties Brigade Depot had brought in 10 new members, but he would like to know how many of the 1st Battalion were now members of the Association. In reply, Major Galvin said that, as a result of a great recruiting drive in the Battalion, a total of 206 had now become members.

The Secretary was asked if he now received lists of names and addresses of men leaving the Regiment in order that he could follow them up and try to get them to join the Association. The Secretary replied that he had not received any lists to date.

Major Clayden stated that he interviewed all men of the Regiment who were discharged through Home Counties Brigade Depot, and stressed the work of the Association and the advantages of membership. He said that he had further ensured that his successor would also carry on this work.

Lt.-Col. Roberts suggested that O.C. 1st Battalion should be asked if it would help to bring home to the members of the Battalion the work of the Association if the Secretary were to pay a visit to the Battalion and give a talk on the subject. Major Galvin agreed to take the matter up with his Commanding Officer and get a decision from him.

(b) There being no further comment the Secretary's report was adopted.

5. Correspondence

A file containing the following letters was passed

round for members of the committee to read:

- (a) The Star and Garter letter dated December 24,
- (b) Forces Help Society letter dated December 27,
- (c) Regular Forces Employment Association letter dated December 27, 1962.
- (d) S.S.A.F.A. letter dated December 28, 1962. (e) British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association
- letter dated December 31, 1962. (f) Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows letter dated January 1, 1963.
- (g) Family Welfare Association letter dated January 2,

(h) Mr. E. Frolich's letter dated January 4, 1963.

The Secretary explained that serials (a) to (g) were letters of thanks for annual grants made by our Association, and that serial (h) was a letter of thanks for assistance.

6. Finance Sub-Committee's Report

The report was adopted without comment.

7. War Memorial Sub-Committee's Report

(a) Repairs and Improvements to Cottages at Mill Hill. After a lengthy discussion on item 2 of Appendix "C" to the Agenda, the recommendations of the sub-committee were approved, subject to a decision by Major Hardcastle regarding the legal position after he has been able to study the agreement entered into with the War Office at the time these cottages were built.

(b) Widows' Accommodation. Lt.-Col. Roberts suggested that a copy of the report at Appendix "D" to the Agenda should now be sent to the two widows residing in the cottages at Mill Hill, and that they should be asked to reconsider their decision not to apply for a vacancy in the Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows at East Molesev.

After some discussion it was proposed by Col. Ellis and agreed that the two widows concerned should be approached again with a view to applying for a vacancy in the Royal Cambridge Home, and that, if they refused, the sub-committee should be authorised to proceed on the lines indicated in item 4 of Appendix "C" to the Agenda.

(c) There being no further comments the report was adopted

8. Journal Sub-Committee's Report

(a) Advertisements. The Secretary reported that he had been able to obtain three more advertisements for the April issue, and that he had hopes of getting more for the October issue.

The Vice-Chairman stated that good advertisement revenue might be obtained from suppliers in Gibraltar, and Major Galvin promised to see that efforts were made in that direction on the 1st Battalion's arrival in that

(b) Subsidy. In answer to questions the Secretary confirmed that a subsidy of £100 from the Regimental Association towards the reproduction of the Regimental Journal has been authorised for 1963.

The Chairman stated that, if a further subsidy was

required, he would approach the Colonel of the Regiment to see if any assistance could be given from the Trust Funds.

(c) There being no further comments the report was adopted.

o. Branch Secretaries' Sub-Committee's Report

(a) O.C.A. Badges. After some discussion the Secretary was authorised to purchase 1,000 badges of the new

(b) Association Membership-Proposed New Subscription Rate. The recommendation made in item 8 of Appendix "F" to the Agenda that the minimum subscription under Rule 6 (c) should be five shillings per year was NOT approved.

(c) Subject to the above the report was adopted.

10. Report of Special Sub-Committee dealing with the Scheme for the Construction of Widows Flatlets at Enfield

(a) Formal Application to Enfield Borough Council. With reference to item 4 (f) of Appendix "G" to the Agenda, Major Hardcastle stated that he could not at the moment produce a copy of the draft agreement required, but that he would look into the matter immediately. He also undertook to confirm that the Association is recognised as a housing association, and to report back to the sub-committee as soon as possible.

(b) The Vice-Chairman asked if we should proceed with the scheme before the further £4,000 required had

The Chairman said that, as many donations had already been received, we were committed to building the flatlets. Moreover, he felt that, when the Regimental Appeal was launched, a good deal of the money still required would be forthcoming. In this connection he stated that, when the original War Memorial Appeal was launched, over £10,000 was raised within the Regiment.

Lt.-Col. Roberts asked whether the two further flatlets, as originally planned, could be built later, if

funds became available.

The Chairman stated that the sub-committee had not been prepared to proceed with the original plan for building six flatlets, but that there would be no difficulty in adding two further flatlets at a later date, should funds become available.

(c) There being no further comments the report was noted and approved.

11. Report of the Public Relations Sub-Committee for the Albuhera Close Flatlet Scheme

(a) Brochure. Col. Clayton produced a suggested brochure to be circulated in connection with the Appeal. After some discussion it was proposed by Col. Ellis,

seconded by Major Newman, and agreed that the wording of the brochure should be tidied up by Col. Clayton and the Secretary, and submitted to the Chairman for approval.

The Chairman stated that he would submit the final proof to General Horrocks for his agreement before

issue.

It was further agreed that 5,000 copies of the brochure should be ordered at a cost of approximately £150.

(b) Derby Sweepstake. It was agreed that this should be run by Regimental Headquarters, and that tickets should be in books of five for 2s. 6d.

(c) Monster Raffle. It was agreed that this should be deferred until such time as the financial position was clear.

(d) Budget Summary. The budget requirement of £250 recommended by the sub-committee was approved.

(e) Subject to the deletion of the monster raffle, the

report was approved.

12. Report of the Special Sub-Committee appointed to Organise the Albuhera Sunday Parade, 1963

(a) Col. Clayton confirmed that it had not been possible to obtain permission to hold the parade on Horse Guards on Sunday May 19, as originally planned, but that Sunday, May 12, had been booked instead.

He also stated that a decision had not yet been made as to whether or not it would be possible to have the Massed Bands of the 1st and 5th Battalions, but the matter was still being investigated.

After discussion regarding the form of the parade it was agreed that the best plan for the Old Comrades was for them to form up by branches.

It was also agreed that a special notice regarding the parade should appear in the next issue of the Regimental Journal and that Press releases should be made nearer the date of the parade.

(b) The report was noted and received.

13. Report of Special Sub-Committee appointed to Revise the Rules of the Association

(a) The Vice-Chairman drew attention to the recommendation by Branch Secretaries that Rule 6 (c) should be altered to read "a minimum of 5s.," it having been suggested that this would enable branches to hand over 2s. per paid-up member to the Association, whilst the remaining 3s. per member—an increase of 1s. per member—would help meet postage and other administrative expenses.

Brigadier Rackham pointed out that the Rule stated "a minimum of 3s." and, in his opinion, Branches were at liberty to make their own arrangements regarding increased subscriptions. This would, of course, have to be agreed in a democratic manner at individual Branch meetings.

After further discussion it was proposed by Brigadier Rackham, seconded by Capt. Bonnamy, and passed unanimously, that Rule 6 should remain unchanged, and that Branches should make their own arrangements regarding increased subscriptions.

(b) As regards the proposed Rule 16A, Brigadier Green asked why it was necessary for a member who resides in Middlesex to have to belong to a Branch.

After discussing the reason for this it was agreed that the Rule should stand as shown in the proposed amendments at Appendix " K" to the Agenda.

(c) The Chairman explained that the amendments proposed could not take effect until they had been confirmed at the Annual General Meeting and approved

in writing by the President of the Association, as laid down in Rule 53.

Arising from this it was agreed that a notice regarding the proposed amendments should be published in the next issue of the Regimental Journal.

(d) It was proposed by Brigadier Rackham and seconded by Major Hardcastle that the Committee's appreciation of all the hard work put in by the Vice-Chairman in connection with the revision of the Rules should be recorded.

Carried nem. con.

14. Report from the Vice-Chairman regarding the Association Standard

The Vice-Chairman produced the staff and cord suggested for the Standard, which were approved by the Committee.

The Vice-Chairman stated that Mrs. Medley was proceeding with the embroidery and that, although there was a delay of three weeks in supplying the maroon silk, this would not hold up the completion unduly, since no embroidery was necessary on that silk, and the Standard would be ready in time for the presentation on May 12.

The Vice-Chairman explained that the cost of the Standard would be a little more than originally thought because the silk eventually selected was more expensive. He suggested that, when completed, the Standard should be insured in the sum of £75.

The Committee agreed to the Vice-Chairman's request that Mrs. Medley should receive an invitation to attend the Presentation on May 12.

15. Annual Reunion

After some discussion it was agreed that the annual reunion this year should again be held at Seymour Hall.

The Secretary reported that he had already had to put in a bid for the hire of the hall for this event on October 18, but that confirmation had not yet been received.

16. Honorary Membership

It was unanimously agreed that the following should be elected honorary members of the Association under Rule 5

R.S.M. F. Webb—lately R.S.M. of 5th Battalion. Mr. W. Blades—Chief Clerk, Regimental Head-

quarters.

In regard to R.S.M. Webb the Chairman agreed to write thanking him for his excellent work on behalf of the Association during his tour of duty with the Regiment.

17. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

(a) Chairman. Lt.-Col. Fox reported that his was the only name on the list of nominations received by the Secretary.

His re-election as Chairman was unanimously approved by the Committee.

(b) Vice-Chairman. The Chairman reported that, although two nominations had been received by the Secretary, the President of the Association had expressed a wish that Lt.-Col. Burrows should remain as Vice-

MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Reunion JUBILEE Year

on

Friday, 29th November, 1963

at

Seymour Hall, Seymour Place, W.1

(5 minutes' walk from Marble Arch Underground Station)

Dancing to The Curzon Orchestra

Refreshments available

Fully Licensed Bars

Tickets Single 2s. 6d. Double 4s. (Admitting lady and gentleman)

From Secretary, Regimental Association, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex or at Entrance, Seymour Hall, on 29th Nov.

The Die-Hards

SI. TEUMA B SI. MAIN STREET, GIBRALTAR Telephone A 2112 Gramophone Records at U.K. Basic Prices Exclusive distributors for

Exclusive distributors for His Master's Voice, Columbia, Parlophone, Mercury, Decca, Brunswick, London, R.C.A., Pye-Nixa, Warner Bros. etc.

Television Receivers for sale or hire

Radios, Record Players, Tape Recorders, Hi-Fi Equipment

Purchases of £5 or over may be supplied on the N.A.A.F.I. instalment credit plan.

Sports News from GIBRALTAR

Gibraltar has its own peculiar sports problems—hard grounds, lack of space, and humid climate being but a few.

Mr. Eric Hoare, proprietor of Hoare's Sports Shop, is the second generation to serve the Services with their sports requirements on the "Rock," and the firm has, in fact, served the Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) on its previous tour of duty here.

This experience is available to all sportsmen in Gibraltar, who will find a ready welcome at 162 Main Street, and a choice of equipment made by Britain's leading manufacturers.

The Bank with a Thousand Offices

We have, in fact, *over* one thousand offices in forty different territories lying within the main areas shown below. At our Irish Town office the private individual is offered an unparalleled banking service, which includes savings bank accounts and the safe keeping of packages and parcels.

You are invited to make use of our wide experience in all matters dealing with banking or travel throughout the world. Why not call and see the Manager who will be pleased to explain the many ways in which the Bank can help you.

THE BANK SERVES THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, EAST AFRICA WEST AFRICA, THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE WEST INDIES

BARCLAYS BANK D.C.O. . . 83-89 IRISH TOWN . . GIBRALTAR

Chairman until he takes over his new appointment next

The Committee endorsed this unanimously and Lt.-Col. Burrows agreed to continue as Vice-Chairman.

18. Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, June 27, 1963. F. WALDEN, Colonel, Secretary.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. Benevolent Cases

(a) During the period from October 1, 1962, to January 31, 1963, the sum of £316 4s, 11d. was used to assist 49 cases. Of these, the following saw war service as under:

South African War . . 4 1914-18 War . . . 24 1939-45 War . . . 16

(b) Clothing Grants. Six grants were made, of which four were to widows living on small incomes and two to elderly ex-members of the Regiment living alone.

(c) Convalescent Holidays. Only two grants were made, one of which was for an ex-member of the Regiment who had had both legs amputated.

(d) Educational Grants. The sixth grant was made of £30, to which 51st (Highland) Division Trust Fund adds £75, to meet the balance of one year's fees for the son of an ex-member of the Regiment at a Cathedral School.

(e) Fuel Grants. A total of fourteen grants were made either to widows, couples living on retirement pensions or elderly ex-members of the Regiment living alone.

Of these grants one was to a widow who is blind and confined to her house; another to a widow who is bedridden and has to be cared for by her daughter; another to a widow with an invalid son; another to a diabetic ex-member of the Regiment who has had thrombosis; another to an elderly couple over 80 years of age who have both been in hospital; and another to our oldest "Die-Hard," aged 94.

(f) Housing. Four grants were made to assist with housing problems.

In one case a grant was made towards the removal expenses of an ex-member of the Regiment who was sick and for whom better accommodation had been found in the hope that it would lead to an improvement in his health

In another case help towards the payment of rates was given to an elderly ex-member of the Regiment with a bedridden wife to care for.

(g) Rent Arrears. A total of five cases were assisted. Of these, one had been a P.O.W. in Japanese hands and had been laid off work following an injury to his arm; another had to quit work and stay at home in order to look after a sick wife and four small children—one only two weeks old; and in another case help was given to prevent the eviction of a family of five small children, whose father suffered from a mental illness which stopped him getting regular work.

(h) Miscellaneous.

(i) Several small grants were made for extra nourishment for sick and elderly people.

(ii) Help was given at Christmas time to a young couple with three children, whose father had just been discharged from a mental hospital.

(iii) In co-operation with the Prison After-Care Society, small grants have been made to help in the rehabilitation of an ex-member of the Regiment who had been in prison nine years.

(iv) A grant was made to a young married exmember of the Regiment who was living in one room with his wife. She was suffering badly from the after-effects of an illness, and could not be left alone.

2. Executive Committee

(a) Ex Officio Members. In accordance with Rule 21 (a) R.S.M. Boseley has become an ex officio member on taking over the duties of R.S.M. 5th Battalion (T.A.) from R.S.M. F. Webb.

(b) Nominated Members. In accordance with Rule 21 (b) the President has approved of the following members nominated at the ex officio members' meeting hald on Fabruary 8, 1062:

held on February 8, 1963: and Battalion Col. S. F. Hedgecoe Brigadier B. B. Rackham, 3rd ,, C.B.E., M.C., D.L. Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, 4th O.B.E., M.C., D.L. (Militia) Major E. L. Heywood Lt.-Col. I. R. Burrows, O.B.E. .. Brigadier A. E. Green, D.S.O., 1/7th O.B.E. .. Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, 2/7th ,, O.B.E., T.D. Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B., 1/8th ,, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P. Col. W. D. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., 2/8th ,, Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L.

3. Association Membership

(a) Up to date 10 new members have been registered this year in this office. All of these are recruits at the Home Counties Brigade Depot, and were enrolled solely by the efforts of Cpl. L. Quinn, their squad instructor, who himself became a member of the Association last year.

(b) The deaths of the following members have been notified since my last report:

Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. Capt. H. J. Jennings

4. New Branches

The following is the present position regarding the formation of new branches:

(a) Cambridge. A total of 18 ex-members of the Regiment—all with service in World War I—have been traced but, owing to the fact that they are widely dispersed throughout the county, it may not be possible to form the branch intended. A final decision on this is likely to be arrived at shortly when I visit Cambridge to discuss the matter with those concerned.

The Die-Hards

(b) Aldershot. Up to date six ex-members of the Regiment have stated that they would be prepared to join a new branch if formed in the area.

Capt. R. J. Tarrant has undertaken to assist in the formation of this branch.

(c) Colchester. Although efforts were made to start a branch in this area over a year ago, progress has been very slow and up to date only seven ex-members of the Regiment who live in the area have promised to join.

(d) Portsmouth. Efforts to form a branch in this area were only started last month, and already four exmembers of the Regiment who live in the area have promised to join.

5. News Sheet

Reference Minute 8 (c) of the Executive Committee meeting, held on June 21, 1962, the first news sheet (Newsletter No. 1) was issued to all Regimental Journal readers in January last.

F. WALDEN, Colonel, Secretary.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT GUILDHALL, WEST-MINSTER, S.W.I, ON THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1963

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Lt.-Col. I. R. Burrows, O.B.E. (Vice-Chairman), Brigadier A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, D.L., Col. W. D. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., Col. S. F. Hedgecoe, Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. F. de R. Morgan, M.C., Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major E. L. Heywood, Major P. F. Newman, M.B.E., Col. F. Walden (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., Lt.-Col. C. N. Clayden, Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Lt.-Col. G. W. Webber, T.D., Capt. S. R. Bonnamy, R.S.M. H. Boseley.

1. The Lord Lieutenancy

The Chairman stated that he wished to place on record the Committee's appreciation of the appointment of Lt.-General G. C. Bucknall, C.B., M.C., as Her Majesty's Lieutenant for the County of Middlesex.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman

Arising from Minute 17(b) of the Meeting held on February 28, 1963, the Chairman stated that, as Lt.-Col. Burrows was taking up a new appointment abroad in August, it was now necessary to appoint a vice-chairman in his place for the remainder of the current year. He proposed, therefore, that Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton should be appointed to fill the vacancy.

The proposal was seconded by Col. Man and carried unanimously.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

(a) The Chairman stated that, in line 9 of Minute 10(b) of the Meeting held on February 28, 1963, the

name of Lt.-Col. Robbins should be substituted for that of Lt.-Col. Roberts.

(b) The necessary alteration having been made the Minutes of the Meeting held on February 28, 1963, were passed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Secretary's Report

In adopting the Secretary's Report the Committee wished to record its appreciation of the work done by those concerned in connection with the Albuhera Day Parade, including the making and preparation of the Association Standard

5. Correspondence

A file containing letters from the undernamed was passed round for members of the Committee to read:

(a) Letters of Appreciation for Charitable

 Mr. H. Gates's letter dated April, 7, 1963, for help towards arrears of rent.

(ii) Mr. G. Heim's letter dated April 18, 1963, for help towards a holiday.

(iii) Mr. A. E. Mayes's letter dated March 29, 1963, for purchase of clothing.

(iv) Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, Southsea, letter dated April 11, 1963, for purchase of warm underclothing for Mr. N. J. Middleton.

(v) Mrs. E. H. Oswald's letter dated May 7, 1963, for help towards a holiday.

 (vi) Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, Southsea, letter dated May 29, 1963, for purchase of a warm coat for Mrs. G. M. Wilcox.
 (b) Miscellaneous

(vii) Secretary, 9th Bn. The Middlesex Regt. (D.C.O.)T.A., O.C.A., letter dated June 8, 1963, in connection with Albuhera Parade on Horse Guards on May 12, 1063.

(viii) R.S.M. F. Webb's letter dated May 9, 1963 in connection with his election as an Honorary Member of the Regimental Association.

6. Finance Sub-Committee's Report

(a) Resignation of Member of Sub-Committee. The Chairman stated that Lt.-Col. Clayden had resigned from the Sub-Committee as he had been unable to find time to attend the meetings.

In his place it was proposed by Lt.-Col. Roberts and seconded by Col. Ellis that Lt.-Col. J. T. Dear, T.D., be invited to become a member of the Sub-Committee.

(b) Albuhera Parade 1963. Arising from Minute 5 of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on June 12, 1963, the Chairman stated that the Parade had cost between £350 and £400, and that the Colonel of the Regiment had agreed to contribute £250 towards the cost from the funds available to him.

(c) Parting Gift to Mrs. Brooks. The Chairman drew attention to the fact that, in Minute 6 of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on June 12, 1963, a recommendation had been made that Mrs. Brooks should be presented with a cheque for £50, together with a Regimental brooch.

After a short discussion it was unanimously agreed that the gift should consist of a cheque for £100 and a brooch in the form of the Regimental badge.

(d) Association Accounts. It was proposed by Major Newman and seconded by Lt.-Col. Burrows that the Accounts for the year ended December 31, 1962, be approved for submission to the Association in General Meeting.—Carried.

7. War Memorial Sub-Committee's Report

(a) Repairs and Improvements at Mill Hill. Brigadier Rackham reported that, as it was dangerous, it had been necessary to carry out the replacement of the electrical circuits at Nos. 1 and 2 at a cost of £300; and that repairs to Nos. 3 and 4 had now been completed, but that Mr. Blackmore had not inspected them on completion of the work.

Brigadier Rackham drew the attention of the Committee to the considerable amount of work done by Mr. Blackmore in connection with these Cottages and thought that the Committee might like to consider

some practical appreciation.

Brigadier Rackham urged that the Regimental Association should expedite its approach to the WD Land Agent regarding the disposal of Nos. 1 and 2. In this connection it was proposed by Brigadier Rackham and seconded by Major Hardcastle that the action of the Chairman in approaching the WD Land Agent with a view to taking cottages Nos. 1 and 2 back be approved by this Committee.—Carried.

(b) Flatlets at Albuhera Close, Enfield. The Committee discussed at length the report of the Chairman of the Housing Sub-Committee on his interview with certain tenants and noted that the flatlets would be available for occupation on or about October 31, 1963.

It was resolved that:

(i) The flatlets at Albuhera Close, Enfield, are to be let, on conditions to be arranged, to—

- (a) widows or widowers residing in Regimental War Memorial houses at Mill Hill or Enfield, such widows or widowers to have absolute priority over all others on the waiting list.
- (b) widows of ex-members of the Regiment.(c) widowers who have served in the Regiment.
- (d) aged married couples at their own request who occupy a Regimental War Memorial house.
- (ii) A waiting list of eligible applicants is to be compiled forthwith.
- (iii) After satisfying the requirements of (i) (a) a tenancy of any flatlet then vacant will be offered to those selected from the waiting list.

(iv) Each of the present three resident widows, namely:

Mrs. Comber, 3 Bittacy Hill, Mill Hill. Mrs. Bagnall, 4 Bittacy Hill, Mill Hill. Mrs. Peacock, 9 Albuhera Close, Enfield.

(a) Be offered in writing the tenancy of one of the flatlets at Albuhera Close, Enfield, on conditions to be agreed by the Committee. (b) Be given in writing as soon as possible warning that she will be required to vacate her present house on or before October 31, 1963, and that during September, 1963, she will receive an official communication giving her notice to vacate on or before October 31, 1963.

(c) Be given every assistance and every endeavour be made to bring about voluntary vacation but, should this not be the case, the Regimental Association will proceed to obtain prossession by

legal process.

(v) Within the terms of the above general conditions the undernamed Sub-Committee be authorised to act up to and including the actual occupation of the flatlets and/or vacation of those houses now occupied by widows:

Chairman of the Executive Committee Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L. Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D.

(c) There being no further comments the Report was adopted.

8. Report of Special Sub-Committee dealing with the Scheme for the Construction of Widows Flatlets at Enfield

(a) Erection of Garages. Arising from Minute 3(a) of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on April 8, 1963, the Secretary was asked to try and get confirmation of this point in writing from Enfield Borough Council.

(b) Rate of Interest on Loans. Arising from Minute 4(d) of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on April 8, 1963, the Chairman stated that Major Hardcastle had had a letter from Enfield Borough Council confirming that the rate of interest on loans had been reduced.

(c) Subsidies. It was proposed by Col. Ellis and seconded by Major Newman that the Chairman and Secretary of the Association be and they are hereby authorised on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Association to enter into an agreement with the Borough of Enfield in relation to the subsidies to be granted by the Borough of Enfield for the four flatlets to be erected as part of the War Memorial Estate at Lavender Hill, Enfield.—Carried.

(d) There being no further comments the Report was

9. Journal Sub-Committee's Report

(a) The Chairman congratulated the Editor of the Regimental Journal on his efforts to increase the circulation of the Journal and its advertising content. He hoped that these efforts would be successful.

(b) There being no further comments the Report was adopted.

10. Branch Secretaries' Sub-Committee Report The Report was adopted without comment.

11. Report of the Special Sub-Committee appointed to revise the Rules of the Association

Arising from Minute 13(c) of the Meeting held on

February 28, 1963, it was proposed by Lt.-Col. Burrows and seconded by Major Newman that the Rules be amended in the manner set out in Appendix 'I' to the Agenda.-Carried.

12. Change of Title

The Committee considered a proposal made by Brigadier Green that the present title of the Branches of the Association should include the words "The Die-Hards"

After some discussion it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Col. Man that Branch Secretaries should be informed that it was the wish of this Committee that Branches should eliminate the words "Old Comrades" from their title and introduce the word "Diehard", and that each Branch should consider re-naming itself on these lines.-Carried.

13. Any Other Business

(a) Move of 1st Battalion. The Chairman stated that, by the time this Committee met again, the 1st Battalion would have moved overseas from Lydd and. on behalf of the Committee, he wished the Battalion a very successful tour in Gibraltar.

The Chairman drew the attention of Lt.-Col. Morgan to Rule 24 and asked that the names of those who would represent him and R.S.M. Dodkins should be sent to the Secretary before the departure of the Battalion

(b) Death of Mr. H. C. Hull, M.M. Brigadier Rackham mentioned the sudden death of Mr. H. C. ("Busty") Hull, M.M., which occurred at his home on May 26, 1963. He had been a wonderful "Die-Hard" and had done a tremendous amount of work for the Regiment.

Brigadier Rackham suggested that either the Colonel of the Regiment or the Chairman should write to the widow

The Chairman said he would find out if the Colonel of the Regiment had written and, if not, he himself would do so.

(c) Recruitment of Former Officers for Executive Committee. At the suggestion of Col. Man members of the Committee were asked to submit to the Secretary the names of any suitable former officers of the Regiment, either living or working in London, so that they could be invited to become members of this Committee.

(d) Next Meeting. The next Meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 30, 1963.

F. WALDEN, Colonel, Secretary.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. Benevolent Cases

(a) During the period from February 1, 1963 to May 31, 1963 the sum of £374 os. 4d. was used to assist 55 cases. Of these the following saw war service as under:

1914-18 War 33 1939-45 War 19

(b) Clothing Grants. Fifteen grants were made, of which three were to widows living on small incomes and twelve to elderly ex-members of the Regiment.

- (c) Convalescent Holidays. Seven grants were made one of which was for the mother of an exmember of the Regiment who had been a P.O.W. in the Far East, and had lost his life in the "Lisbon Maru".
- (d) Fuel Grants. A total of seven grants were made either to widows or to couples living on retirement pensions

(e) Housing. Six grants were made to assist with housing problems.

> In two cases grants were made towards the removal expenses of ex-members of the Regiment.

In another case help towards the payment of rates was given to an elderly ex-member of the Regiment, and in another case help was given towards the provision of furniture for an exmember who had emigrated to New Zealand after the 1939-45 War, and had returned on account of illness.

(f) Rent Arrears. A total of four cases were assisted. Of these two were ex-National Service men and one was the wife of an ex-soldier who had served in the Regiment in the 1939-45 War and was now serving a prison sentence for embezzlement

(g) Miscellaneous

- (i) Several small grants were made for extra nourishment for sick and elderly people.
- (ii) In co-operation with the Prison After-Care Society small grants have been made to help in the re-habilitation of an ex-member of the Regiment discharged from prison.
- (iii) A grant was made to one of our disabled ex-soldiers to enable him to install a power point to charge the batteries for his invalid tricycle.

2. Association Membership

With reference to Minute 4(a) of the Executive Committee Meeting held on February 28, 1963, a total of 206 other ranks of the 1st Battalion have now become fully paid-up members.

3. Albuhera Parade

Apart from the Detachments found by the 1st and 5th Battalions, approximately 300 Old Comrades actually took part in the Albuhera Parade on Horse Guards on May 12, 1963. Including those who were spectators it is estimated that about 400 Old Comrades witnessed the Presentation of the Standard by the Chief of the Imperial General Staff.

After the Parade accommodation in Wellington Barracks was kindly set aside by Headquarters, London District, where refreshments were provided for approximately 700 past and present members of the Regiment and their relations who had been present at the Parade.

It is estimated that the total cost of organising the Parade will be between £350 and £400.

> F. WALDEN, Colonel, Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.

ALTERATIONS TO RULES

As indicated in the notice contained on page 292 of the April issue of The Die-Hards, under "Annual General Meeting", the alterations to the Rules approved by the Executive Committee, acting pursuant to Rule 53, which will be submitted to the Annual General Meeting for confirmation, are set out below:-

- (1). By inserting at the beginning of Rule 9 the words "Subject to the provisions of Rule 12".
- (2). By inserting at the beginning of Rule 10 the words "Subject to the provisions of Rule 12" and by adding the following sentence at the end of this Rule; "One third of each subscription paid by an ex-officer who thus nominates a Branch shall be passed on by the Secretary to the Branch nominated".
- (3). By deleting the existing Rule 11 and substituting the following Rule to be Numbered 11:
- (11). Subject to the provisions of Rule 12, ex-other-rank Members who are members of a Branch shall pay their subscriptions to the Treasurer of their Branch but members recorded in the Central Register shall pay their subscriptions direct to the Secretary of the
- (4). By deleting the existing Rule 12 and substituting the following Rule to be Numbered 12:
- (12). Any member entitled by the Rules to pay his subscription direct to the Secretary of the Association may, if he wishes to do so, pay it by Banker's Order direct to the Association's Bank.
- (5). By deleting from Rule 13 the words "30th day of June of" and substituting the words "the date of the Annual General Meeting in"
- (6). By deleting from Rule 14 in the first line the words "30th day of June" and substituting the words "30th day of September".
- (7). By inserting after Rule 14 the following Rule to be Numbered IAA:
- (14A). It shall be the responsibility of every Branch Secretary to seet the Secretary of the Association once in each year during the month of October and to produce to him a nominal roll of ex-other-nak members of his Branch showing the subscription received from each such member and the total sum due to the Association under this Rule and to pay such sum to the Secretary
- (8). By deleting from Rule 15 in the penultimate line the preposition "through" and substituting the preposition "by".
- (9). By inserting after the heading "Constitution" on page 6 the following Rules to be Numbered 16 and 16A and by renumbering the existing Rule 16 Rule 16B:
- (16). As from the date of the adoption of this Rule, there shall be instituted a Central Register of the Association in which shall be recorded (a) Honorary Members and (b) Members of the Association who are not members of a Branch.
- (16.31). Any member of the Association whether serving or not and whether residing in the County of Middlesex or not shall be entitled to join any Branch of the Association. So long as a member resides in the County of Middlesex he must be and remain a member of one of the Branches but so soon as he ceases so to reside, he may be notice to the Secretary of the Association resign his membership of that Branch and be recorded as a member of the Association in the Central Register of the

Nothing in this Rule shall be deemed to require a member of the swotting in this Rule shall be deemed to require a member of the Association who is not at the date of the adoption of this Rule a member of a Branch to become a member of a Branch and unless the Secretary of the Association shall have received by the 31st day of December 1963 from a Secretary of a Branch notification that such member has joined a Branch he shall be regarded in having elected to be recorded in the Central Register of the Association.

(10). By deleting from Rule 16B (new numbering) the existing text except for the last six lines and by substituting the following text:

"At the date of adoption of these Rules (as amended) there are in existence the following Branches of the Association, namely: Mill Hill Uxbridge

Mill Hill Usbridge Ealing 2nd 7th Battalion Ghard Hornsey Houng Mannen Guard Battalion Bandsmen and Drummers Hong Kong?

also by deleting the word "eight" in the first of the lines immediately following the new text.

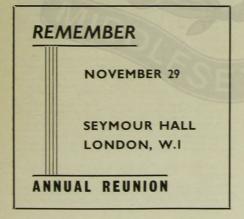
- (11). By deleting the existing Rule 20 and substituting the following Rule to be Numbered 20:
- (20). The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Executive (20). The Chairman and vice-chairman of the Executive Committee of the Association shall during their respective terms of office as such be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively of the Association. At every meeting of the Association, or of its Executive Committee, the Chairman, if present, shall preside. If the Chairman is absent, the Vice-Chairman, if present, shall preside. If neither is present, the meeting shall be presided over by such member of the Executive Committee as the members of that Committee, then present and being a quorum in conformity with
- (12). By deleting paragraph (a) of Rule 21 and substituting the following text:

- (a) As Ex-Officio Members
 The Officer Commanding, 1st Battalion
 The Officer Commanding, 5th Battalion
 The Regimental Sergeant-Major, 1st Battalion
 The Regimental Sergeant-Major, 5th Battalion
 One serving Regular Officer of the Regiment (other than the
 Officer commanding the 1st or 5th Battalion) nominated from
 time to time by the President of the Association.
- (13). By inserting after Rule 21 the following Rule to be numbered 21A:
- (21A). The serving Regular Officer to be an ex-officio Member of the Executive Committee of the Association shall be nominated in writing from time to time by the President of the Association and shall continue in office until such time as a successor shall be nominated in writing by the President and such nomination shall have been received by the Secretary of the Association. Any Officer nominated by the President as an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee shall be a serving officer and not a retired officer unless the President otherwise differs.
- (14). By deleting the existing Rule 22 and substituting the following Rule:
- (22). The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee shall be elected by that Committee from amongst its members at the first meeting in each calendar year but neither of them shall take office until his appointment shall have been approved by the President. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall hold office for one year only (being however eligible for re-election) but neither of them shall vacate his office until his successor shall have been elected and his appointment approved by the President
- (15). By deleting the existing Rule 23 and substituting the following Rule:
- (23). All nominated, elected and co-opted members serving on December 31, 1963 shall cease to be members on that date. Thereafter all nominated, elected and co-opted members shall retire on December 31 of each second year after that date. Any member of the Executive Committee, whether present or future, shall be eligible Executive Committee, whether present or future, shall be eligible for re-nomination, re-election or re-co-option. All appointments to the Executive Committee shall take effect at the first meeting of the Executive Committee held after the appointment shall have become effective. If any nominated, elected or co-opted member shall die or retire during his period of office a new member may be appointed in his place but such new member shall hold office only so long as the deceased or retiring member would have done, had he continued in office. If an elected member shall die or retire during his period of office, the Executive Committee shall have power to appoint a member of one of the Branches in his place.
- (16). By adding at the end of Rule 27 the following
- The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be deemed ex-officio members of any sub-committee and have the right to attend and take part in the proceedings and vote at any meeting of any sub-

- (17). By deleting in Rule 28 the number "ten" and substituting the number "eight".
- (18). By deleting the first sentence of paragraph (a) of Rule 34 and substituting the following text:
- (a) A Meeting of the Representatives of the Branches of the Association will be convened by the Secretary of the Association and held immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting in the year 1963 and thereafter in every second year for the purpose of electing two of such Representatives as the Branch Representatives on the Executice Committee for the next two years.
- (19). By deleting paragraph (d) of Rule 34 and substituting the following text:
- (d) If within 15 minutes prior to the time fixed for the commencement of the Annual General Meeting, five Representatives shall not be present at the meeting to be held as provided by this Rule, the two Branch Representatives for the ensuing two years shall be nominated by the Chairman of the Association or in the absence of the Chairman by the Vice-Chairman.
- (20). By deleting Rule 38 and substituting the following text:
- (38). Notice of Annual General Meetings shall be published in the April issue of the Regimental Journal and shall be given in writing to all Branch Secretaries not less than one month prior to the date of the Meeting.
- (21). By deleting in Rule 50 the words "to the Executive Committee" and substituting the words "to the Secretary of the Association".
- (22). By deleting paragraph (b) of Rule 52 and substituting the following text:
- (b) Copies of the accounts for each year shall be published in the first available issue of the Regimental Journal after the auditing thereof; in addition at least one month before the date of the Annual General Meeting, one copy of the accounts shall be sent to each member of the Executive Committee and three copies shall be sent to each Branch Secretary for production to, and distribution among, the members of the Branch of which he is Secretary, and one copy shall be available at Regimental H.Q. for inspection by any member who shall apply in writing to the Secretary.

DONATIONS TO CHARITABLE FUND

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges donations from the following to the Association Charitable Fund: Mrs. F. G. M. Rowley, Mr. A. P. Alexander, Mr. R. E. Booker, Mr. W. R. Griffen and Mr. Pigache.



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

BALANCE SHEET, DECEMBER 31, 1962

DALANCE SHEE	1, L	ELEN	IBER 31, 10	02	
				War	
			Charitable	Memorial	Cottage
			Fund	Fund	Homes
			£.	f.	- Louises
Accumulated Funds			35.896		2
Creditors	• •		384		3,223
Bank Overdraft				98	3
Provision for Maintenance		****	1,095		22
		HIII			
			109		
			2,930		
				208	
				630	
Loan Account (Secured)				6,370	
Property Amortisation Fund .				0,370	802
Lord Lieutenant's Appeal				2.085	002
				2,005	
			C		-
			240,414	£47,902	£4,050
T					
Investments at Cost	183		35,919	2,513	1,595
(Mid-Market value December	31, 1	962)	(32,801)	(2,530)	(1,403)
Mortgage			1,000		-
Property				42,191	1.653
Furniture and Fittings at	Non	ninal		1-1-3-	-1-00
value			1		
			25		
Stocks at Cost					
D.I.	-		94		
Cash at Bankers and in Hand	-		140	425	
Cash at Dankers and in Hand .			245	688	
Cash in Hand of O.C.A. Clubs			53		
Regimental History-Cost	not	yet			
recovered		1	7		
Mrs. Renny Legacy Investmen	nt		2,030		
Amortisation Fund Investmen	t				802
Lord Lieutenant's Appeal-	Casr				
Bank		-		2,085	
	100	-	The same	2,003	
			C	C.= 000	£
			240,414	£47,902	24,050
				1	-

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1962

DECEM	BER 31, 196			
		War		Die-
	Charitable	Memoria	al Cottage	Hards
	Fund	Fund	Homes	Journal
	£	£	£	£
INCOME:				
Grants and Donations	361			
Subscriptions, etc	630			196
Interest on Investments	1,743		58	
Income Tax recovered or				
Covenants	6 i			
Profit on Ties and Badges	. 25			
Rents		326		
Maintenance Receipts		52		
Advertisements		3-		IOI
Grant from Charitable Fund				345
Excess of Expenditure over				270
Income	123			
income				
	£2,943	£378	£.58	1.642
	2-1943	23/0	230	204-
EXPENDITURE:				
Grants and Allowances	2 222			
Administration Expenses	1,251			61
Rates and Insurance	1,009	44 56	26	01
Repairs and Maintenance			20	
		58	4	581
Cost of Printing	-			301
Wreaths	67			
O.C.A. Reunion	71			
Grant Die-hards Journal	345			
Cottage Homes Amortisation				
Fund	100			
Upkeep of War Memorial,				
Hong Kong				
Remembrance Day	11			
Refreshments Albuhera Day				
Parade	32			
Regimental Memorial Service				
Hong Kong Reunion	29			
Excess of Income over Ex-				
penditure		220	24	
			_	-
	£2,943	£378	£58	£642
			_	-

In the interests of economy it has been decided to print only an abridged form of the Association Accounts which have been approved by the Auditors. Copies of the full Accounts are in the hands of each Branch Secretary and may be inspected by any member.